



As Narmada backwaters swell, several villagers refuse to shift
page 9



Riot police deployment thwarts Hong Kong airport protest
page 12



Trade issues between India and U.S. solvable, says Nisha Biswal
page 13

Nadal gets past Berrettini, meets Medvedev in the US Open final
page 17



NEARBY



'Uniform policy to protect stray cows'
Union Minister of State for Animal Husbandry Pratap Chandra Sarangi said on Saturday that the Centre was planning to introduce a uniform policy for the entire country to protect stray cows. Addressing the 29th Indian Veterinary Conference here, Mr. Sarangi said 'Gaumata' (cow) is neither a Muslim nor a Hindu.

NORTH & EAST ▶ PAGE 7

Valmiki community protests TV show

Members of the Valmiki community on Saturday staged protests in parts of Punjab against a television show titled *Ram Siya Ke Dev-Kush*, aired on a private channel, which, they alleged, had hurt their religious sentiments.

NORTH & EAST ▶ PAGE 7

Haryana Congress chief suffers a setback on Day 1

Newly appointed Haryana Congress chief Kumari Selja suffered a setback on the first day of taking charge with the party's women's wing chief Sumitra Chauhan quitting to join the ruling BJP on Saturday.

NORTH & EAST ▶ PAGE 7

Man dies in major fire at godown in west Delhi

A 28-year-old man died in a major fire that broke out in an old godown in west Delhi's Punjabi Bagh on Saturday, the police said. After a preliminary enquiry, Delhi Fire Service chief Atul Garg said the godown owner was not in possession of an NOC from the department and there were no firefighting measures in place.

CITY ▶ PAGE 3

Civil society groups hold people's tribunal on NRC

Shedding light on the process and impact of the recent publication of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) for Assam, those affected by the exercise as well as lawyers, activists, and academics participated in a 'people's tribunal' organised by civil society groups here on Saturday.

CITY ▶ PAGE 5

MAGAZINE ▶ 12 PAGES
CLASSIFIEDS ▶ PAGES 4 & 5

ISRO scientists work to decode Chandrayaan-2 lander failure

Increased horizontal velocity may have cast lander away, suggests scientist

MADHUMATHI D.S.
BENGALURU

Hours after India's dream of placing a lander spacecraft on the moon crashed on Saturday morning, Indian Space Research Organisation's teams associated with the still orbiting Chandrayaan-2 mission were looking for clues in the last minutes of data from the lander Vikram.

The lander was to have set itself down on the moon's surface at 1.55 a.m. on Saturday. It had been descending for 12 minutes. However, three minutes before lunar touch down, it lost contact with the earth and went blank. It was 2.1 km above the moon's surface then, ISRO said soon after it detected the setback around 2 a.m.

Possible causes

On what went wrong, a senior space scientist, who has worked on all three ISRO planetary missions, said an increased horizontal velocity might have cast the lander away from the planned site (shown with red lines on the consoles) causing ISRO to lose its link with the lander. "The search for it may be wider now. Only subsequent visits of the orbiter should



Words of solace: PM Modi consoles ISRO Chairman K. Sivan in Bengaluru after the link with the lander was lost. •PTI

tell us where it is," he said.

He suspected that instead of losing velocity as it came down, the lander may have gained velocity at some point. It may also have lost its orientation or attitude (orientation/tilt) – which then increased its velocity. An attitude loss or tilt can also cause a loss of link or telemetry. Add to it the already working speed and moon's

gravity – and it could have crashed to death from a height of 2 km, he said.

Although the terrain between two craters was mapped well, obstruction by hills or sand high rises could not be ruled out, according to him.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

15 NERVOUS MINUTES THAT UNITED INDIA ▶ PAGE 11

Our resolve will not waver, PM tells scientists

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi led a wave of solidarity with scientists at ISRO after its failure to establish contact with the robot Vikram, the heart of Chandrayaan-2.

"You [scientists] are those people who live for India's victory, for her success and strive to keep India's head high. You dedicate your lives to this. I could read the disappointment in your eyes last night. Therefore didn't stay long amidst you. Friends, we may have had some obstacles. But our resolve will not waver. We may have had a stumbling block, but we won't stop," said Mr. Modi.

He said that in literature and art, it would be noted that, "We romanticised the moon so much that Chandrayaan rushed to embrace the moon."

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

STAR OF THE SHOW ▶ PAGE 11

Majority of Kashmiris support decision on Article 370: Doval

"They see more opportunities, jobs and a better future"

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

National Security Adviser Ajit Doval on Saturday said he is "fully convinced" that a majority of Kashmiris support the Centre's decision on Article 370 and affirmed that the restrictions were meant to prevent Pakistan from creating more mischief through proxies and terrorists.

Article 370 "was not a special status. It was a special discrimination. With its withdrawal, we have brought Kashmiris on a par with Indians," he said.

At an interaction with a select group of Indian and foreign journalists, Mr. Doval said restrictions had anyway been eased progressively, and only 10 of the 199 police districts in Kashmir, Jammu and Ladakh still had



Ajit Doval

prohibitory orders, while landlines had been restored fully in all the three areas.

'Answerable to court'

On the political detentions, he said they were preventive in nature and very much allowed under the law, which meant the government was answerable to courts and would have to pay a heavy

penalty if it did anything that was extra-judicial.

In the dilution of Article 370, announced on August 5, "they [Kashmiris] see greater opportunities, a better future, more jobs for youths. There is a vocal minority that opposes it. It appears to people that that is the voice of the people. That is not necessarily true," Mr. Doval said.

Pakistan was bent on creating trouble, and would very much like to see unrest in the Valley, which would add grist to its anti-India propaganda. To achieve that aim, Pakistan had sent many terrorists into Kashmir with the intent of causing trouble, and to ensure that normalcy was not restored.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

DIPLOMATIC BLITZ ▶ PAGE 10

Welcome sight



A season of surplus: Surplus water from the Stanley Reservoir at Mettur in Salem district of Tamil Nadu being let out through 16 vent sluices on Saturday. The dam recorded the full level of 120 ft for the 43rd time since it was built. • E. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN

In uncertain times, Srinagar schools give video lessons

Parents asked to bring pen drives and hard drives to schools in the Valley to copy study material

PERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

The ongoing uncertain situation in Kashmir has forced local schools to distribute study material and video lessons to parents, to assist their wards in pursuing self-learning at home.

Kashmir's prominent Delhi Public School (DPS) has directed parents to reach its Budgam campus with pen drives and hard drives. "The drives should have a minimum capacity of 32 gigabytes. Video lessons and study material will be made available for Class 1 and 2 on September 7 and for Class 3, 10th and 12th on September 8," reads the DPS notice.

Such notices have been issued by other prominent



Facing deprivation: Children catching up on lessons at a tuition centre due to the lockdown in Srinagar. • NISSAR AHMAD

schools too to help students catch up with time lost due to the one-month long clampdown and curfew-like restrictions, imposed since the August 5 decision to revoke Jammu and Kashmir's special status. A series of meetings

between the DPS administration and the parents had failed to arrive at a consensus on resuming regular classes at present, or in the immediate future.

The absence of connectivity with mobile phones and Internet, which

is key for school administrations to apprise the parents of upcoming schedules, is only adding to the difficulties.

No compromise

"No parent will compromise with the security of their children," said the father of a DPS student, declining to be identified. "The administration is not ready to guarantee students' safety. Many schools are insisting that parents drop and pick up their wards. In the current circumstances, it's not possible," he added.

Parents are complaining that their wards may have only a five-month academic session this year. The Valley's schools resumed functioning after a winter break in March and closed

on August 5. "The Centre has played its politics of abrogation of provisions of the Article 370 at the cost of our future generation," said a local resident, whose two sons study in Class 10 and Class 12 in a prominent Srinagar school. "Our next generation is going to pay a heavy price. This will force parents to send their wards outside India," the resident added. Schools close for the annual winter break in December.

Nazia Jan (name changed), with a Masters in Arts, has offered to teach children free up to Class 5 at her residence in Srinagar's Saidakadal area. "This is a small effort to bring to these helpless children some sense of normalcy," she said.

Used 'predator' in context of my personal experience: Ramani

Journalist testifies in defamation case filed by M.J. Akbar

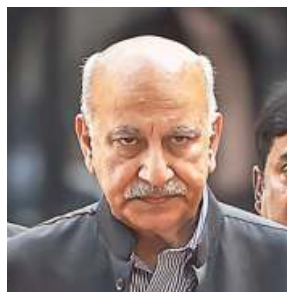
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Journalist Priya Ramani on Saturday recorded her statement in the criminal defamation case filed against her by former Union Minister M.J. Akbar.

Defending the use of the word "predator" in her tweet on October 8, 2018, Ms. Ramani said it was in the context of her personal experience with Mr. Akbar and the shared experiences of many other women.

Ms. Ramani said there was no overt physical attack on her, "but that did not excuse Mr. Akbar's sexually coloured behaviour".

Testifying in the court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Samar Vishal, Ms. Ramani said after com-



M.J. Akbar

pleting her master's in journalism from the U.S., she was looking for a job when Mr. Akbar asked her to meet him for an interview at a hotel, and allegedly called her to his room. Ms. Ramani alleged that he asked several personal questions, offered her alcohol, and moved to the sofa and gestured to her to sit next to him, which she re-

fused. Concerned about her physical safety, she quickly left the place after being told that his office would follow-up about the job, she said.

'First male boss'

In 2017, when Vogue's features editor asked Ms. Ramani to write in the context of the #MeToo movement, she said she "couldn't help but remember my personal story of my first male boss". "I began the article with my M.J. Akbar story. I never named him," she said, stating that only first four paragraphs were on her experience.

A year later, the movement gained momentum in India on Twitter.

Several journalists called out the editors they had worked with.

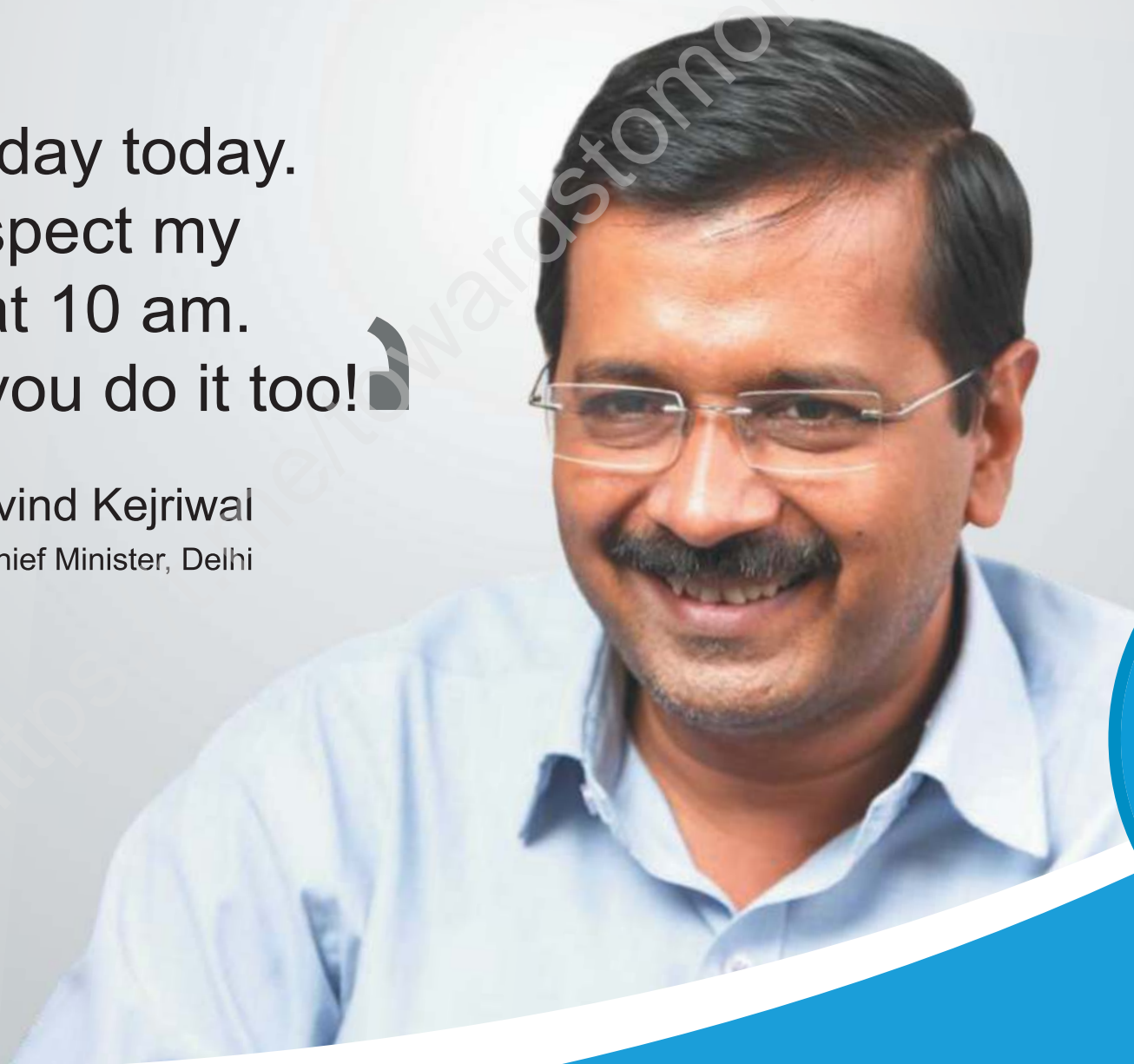
IT'S SUNDAY!

Come join this fight against Dengue today

10 हफ्ते . 10 बजे. 10 मिनट.

It's Sunday today.
I will inspect my
house at 10 am.
I hope you do it too!

- Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi



डेंगू पे
वार हर
रविवार

Dear Delhiites,

Today at 10 o'clock, we have to inspect our homes to check if clean water has accumulated anywhere. We have to ensure that clean water has not collected inside flowerpots, coolers, vases, or anywhere inside or outside our house. If clean water has accumulated, we need to pour it out, change it, or add petrol or oil to it. We should inspect our homes every Sunday at 10 am for the next 10 weeks to save our family from Dengue and Chikungunya. After inspecting your house, do take a selfie and WhatsApp it to 8287972050

दिल्ली कर दिखाएगी

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

Health Department, Government of NCT of Delhi

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

DELHI ☀️ Timings			
SUNDAY, SEPT. 08			
☀️ RISE	06:02	🌇 SET	18:35
🌙 RISE	14:57	🌅 SET	00:42
MONDAY, SEPT. 09			
☀️ RISE	06:03	🌇 SET	18:34
🌙 RISE	15:46	🌅 SET	01:33
TUESDAY, SEPT. 10			
☀️ RISE	06:03	🌇 SET	18:33
🌙 RISE	16:30	🌅 SET	02:25
Delhi Weather	max	min	
Delhi City	36	28	
Safdarjang	36	28	
Palam	36	27	

Delhi Palam Today
37°C Warm and uneasy weather will prevail. Thunder clouds may develop in a few parts.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
37°C Dry and very warm weather will prevail. A partly cloudy sky is likely to prevail.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2019
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT. LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/ company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

IN BRIEF

Three minors nabbed for stabbing teen to death
NEW DELHI
A 19-year-old air conditioner mechanic was stabbed to death allegedly by his three minor friends in Shahdara's Vivek Vihar, the police said on Saturday. Mandeep's body was recovered on Friday, they said, adding that the accused have been apprehended. One of the accused allegedly told police the police that the victim had beaten one of them a few days ago, said an officer. Another accused allegedly told the police that Mandeep had complained to his parents about something and he wanted to to take revenge.

Accountant found dead on metro tracks

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI
A 26-year-old woman allegedly jumped to death in front of a metro train at Model Town station on Saturday. A note has been recovered, the police said.
An officer said the deceased from Paharganj was an accountant. In the note, she has written that nobody is responsible for the extreme step. The police said on a team found her dead on the tracks. The body was shifted to Babu Jagjivan Ram Hospital. No foul play is suspected, the police said.
Suicide prevention helpline: Sanjivni, Society for Mental Health, Telephone: 011-4076 9002, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. -7.30 p.m.

Long queues at pollution checking centres

Many welcome hefty fines for violations, others believe it would increase corruption

AARUSHI AGGARWAL
NEW DELHI
Since the amended Motor Vehicles Act came into force on September 1, pollution checking centres are witnessing long queues of owners seeking their pollution under check (PUC) certificates.
Manager of the Modern Service Station in Connaught Place Dinesh Kumar said, "Earlier, we would have 30 or 35 cars coming in daily but recently we have almost 100 persons seeking their certificate every day." He said there is no concern for the pollution but "people care about paying a hefty fine."
The fine for not having an updated PUC certificate has increased 10 times from ₹1,000 to ₹10,000. The PUC certificate must be updated every 90 days and costs de-

Man dies in major fire at oil godown

Owner of the west Delhi unit was not in possession of an NOC, says DFS chief

HEMANI BHANDARI
NEW DELHI
A 28-year-old man died in a major fire that broke out in an oil godown in west Delhi's Punjabi Bagh on Saturday evening, the police said.
After preliminary enquiry, Delhi Fire Service chief Atul Garg said the godown owner was not in possession of an NOC from the department and there were no firefighting measures in place.
Mr. Garg said a call was received at 4.57 p.m. regarding a fire in an oil godown after which 105 fire tenders were pressed into service over the next three and a half hours.
"The fire was brought under control by 8 p.m. after which cooling-off operation continued," he said.
During the operation, a body was recovered from the first floor of the double-storey building.



The fire at the godown in Punjabi Bagh was put out by 105 fire tenders in three hours. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

The victim was identified as Romit Kumar from Kirari, an accountant. "When the fire was being doused, nobody told us that there was a person inside, otherwise, we would have rescued him. Also, the smoke was so thick that it was impossible to see anything," Mr. Garg said, adding that several people had left by the time the fire had broken

out. Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (West) Sameer Sharma said the fire broke out in TPT Centre in building number 106 and 107.
"All the adjoining buildings were evacuated with the help of other civic body officials," he said.
The police said preliminary enquiry revealed that all the buildings in the area are

used to store lubricant oil. The cause of the blaze is yet to be ascertained. The oil stored in the godowns is used in paints, the police said.
Mr. Garg said the operation was well coordinated. "There were a few blasts in the incident and if the blaze was not doused timely, the building could have collapsed...the fire could have spread to other buildings. A few oil tankers with 10,000 litres of oil were right outside the buildings," he said adding that "most importantly" the control room sent fire tenders from all four directions with spot as centre.
Case registered
A case has been registered under Section 285 (negligent conduct with respect to fire or combustible matter) of the Indian Penal Code. The police said probe is under way.

11 arrested for running fake call centres, duping over 200 people

Accused looted over ₹13 crore through inter-State racket active for the past two years

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI
Eleven men have been arrested for allegedly duping 225 persons of over ₹13 crore on the pretext of selling health insurance policies via fake call centres, the police said on Saturday.
Deputy Commissioner of Police (Rohini) S.D. Misra said the accused – Prabhat Singh, Rupesh, Jitender, Robin Mathew, Dalip Singh, Vishal, Ranjan Garg, Vicky Dhawan, Raj Kumar, Ram Gopal and Jitender Singh – all of them have previous criminal record.
On July 26, a retired bank manager lodged a com-



All the accused have previous criminal record. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

plained at K.N. Katju Marg police station stating that he has been cheated in the name of insurance benefits and investment plans, said an officer.
The victim claimed to have deposited over ₹20 lakhs in various accounts

from April 2018 to May 2019. When the complainant insisted for refunds in May, the callers avoided him and demanded more investments, which made him suspicious.
During interrogation, the police identified 14 bank accounts in which the money was deposited by the victim. They found that the money was withdrawn via cheques and from ATMs, the police said. "The probe revealed that over ₹13 crore has been transferred to these fake accounts from around 225 victims across the country," Mr. Misra said.
Further analysis of call

detail records led the police to Prabhat who told them about the involvement of others. The interrogation of the accused persons revealed that they used to run an organised cybercrime syndicate at a national level and has been committing the crime for the past two years.
Modus operandi
The accused used to open bank accounts with fake identities after which the call centre "owners" were detailed about it. "It was the responsibility of these owners' to make calls through their staff members to va-

Locals thrash two women on suspicion of kidnapping toddler

Child's mother alleged that they were taking him with them

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI
Two women were thrashed by locals in south-east Delhi's Okhla Industrial Area on suspicion of kidnapping a 2-year-old child on Friday afternoon, the police said on Saturday.
Women arrested
Rehana and Sakina were arrested and subsequently released on bail, they said.
The boy, Ritesh who resides with his parents in Sanjay Colony, was playing on the street at that time of the incident.
His mother Rinku Devi was at their residence and father Munna, a labourer, was at work. Rinku allegedly told the police that the two women came to the spot and held Ritesh's hand.
She said she also saw the women take him along with

During interrogation, the women from jhuggis in Badarpur allegedly told the police that they were beggars and they did not even touch the boy
them when she started shouting, the police said.
Following this, the neighbours immediately gathered at the spot and nabbed the duo.
They then started thrashing the women thinking they were kidnappers.
The locals then handed over the boy to his mother and called the police.
On reaching the spot, the officers rescued the woman from the mob and took them to the police station.
Based on the mother's

complaint, a case under Sections 363 (punishment for kidnapping) and 34 (common intention) of the IPC.
During interrogation, the women from jhuggis in Badarpur told the police that they are beggars and did not touch the child.
The video of the incident, which went viral on social media, shows one of the women holding a baby while the other was pleading to the mob.
This is the second such incident reported in the Capital.
Similar incident
On August 27, a 25-year-old pregnant and hearing and speech impaired woman was beaten up by a mob in north-east Delhi's Harsh Vihar on suspicion of kidnapping a child.

Deptt. of Art, Culture & Languages
Govt. of NCT of Delhi

URDU ACADEMY, DELHI

31st URDU DRAMA FESTIVAL

Urdu Academy, Delhi is organising Urdu Drama Festival from 24th November to 29th November, 2019. The Registered Drama Groups of Delhi will participate in the festival subject to submission of script in Urdu language only. Application form with terms & conditions may be obtained from 9th September 2019 from office of Urdu Academy, Delhi during office hours or downloaded from the Website www.urduacademydelhi.com/

Last date of submission of forms and scripts is 27th September, 2019.

C.P.O. Building,
Kashmere Gate, Delhi

23863858
23863566

S. M. Ali
Secretary

DIP/Shabdarth/0617/19-20

Woman sexually assaulted at gunpoint; one arrested

He had planned to kill victim, say police

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI
A 22-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly sexually assaulting a woman at gunpoint along with his friend in Rohini, the police said on Saturday.
Deputy Commissioner of Police (Rohini) S.D. Misra said that the accused from Kirari Suleman Nagar was arrested on Thursday.
Birthday celebration
On July 26, the victim approached the police alleging that her friend had taken her to a flat in Rohini on the pretext of celebrating his birthday where he along with another man sexually assaulted her at gunpoint, the police said.
On Thursday, they claimed to have received a

tip-off on his presence in the area after which a trap was laid and he was nabbed. On his search, a countrymade double barrel pistol was recovered from his possession, the police said.
During interrogation, he allegedly told the police that he was away from his house from past one and a half month as he was wanted in this case.
Out on bail
"He was previously involved in a case of firing at a police party in Geeta Colony and in another case of Arms act in Vijay Vihar. After coming out of bail, he kept indulging in criminal activities and committed sexual assault on gunpoint. He was also planning to murder the woman," Mr. Misra added.

Teens jump into canal, boy found dead

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI
An 18-year-old boy died after he and his 16-year-old girlfriend allegedly jumped into Agra Canal in Jaitpur on Friday as their families were against their relationship, the police said.
An officer said a PCR call was received at 7.30 p.m. stating that a boy and a girl have jumped into the canal near Lohiya Pul. "A search operation was conducted during which the girl was rescued but the boy could not be found," he said. On Saturday, as the search operation continued, the boy's body was found in the canal.
Suicide prevention helpline: Sanjivni, Society for Mental Health, Telephone: 011-4076 9002, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. -7.30 p.m.



Traffic policemen issue challan to a motorist. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

pend on the type of vehicle and fuel it uses.
'Sense of consciousness'
Sujan Verma, a driver, said he welcomes the move because "they instil a sense of consciousness. Pollution checks are important for the safety of the environment."
Car owner Anil Kumar said, "Delhi's air is so bad

that cases of lung cancer have risen. I have lost my mother to the same disease earlier this year. This city is dangerous and we need to whatever we can."
Talking about hefty fines, he added: "This is a good move but there should have been a warning period."
BCC Auto Pvt. Ltd. owner Alka Sahai said this move

Earlier, 30 or 35 cars would come for the certificates in a day but since implementation of the new rules, we have over 100 motorists visiting us every day
DINESH KUMAR
Manager, Modern Service Station
had proven profitable for her company. "I am happy with the new ruling because pollution has become really bad in Delhi."
Another Delhiite said that he doubted how much things would change because "while diesel is cheaper, diesel vehicles are not so buyers are more susceptible to changing car models frequently". He added that CNG gas and petrol users don't have much to worry about.

DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA

YOUR
SWEET HOME
KEEP IT SAFE
&
SECURE

Ensure that the windows and doors are well guarded by strong grills

Install a peep hole and safety door chain to avoid unwanted entry.

Don't let stranger and unidentified people in without identification.

Install security gadgets like security alarms & CCTVs.

Have your surrounding well lighted.

Use good quality bolts and locks and secure valuables in a bank.

MAKE SAFETY A HABIT

E-mail to CP, Delhi at: cp.amulyapatnaik@delhipolice.gov.in
Write your grievance or any confidential information to CP, Delhi at P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi
FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL 100
FOR HELPLINE SERVICES CALL 1090

Civil society groups hold 'people's tribunal' on NRC

Those affected by publication of the list speak about harassment, discrimination

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Shedding light on the process and impact of the recent publication of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) for Assam, those affected by the NRC as well as lawyers, activists, academics participated in a "people's tribunal" organised by civil society groups here on Saturday.

Kicking off the two-day event, human rights activist Harsh Mander and lawyer Prashant Bhushan started the discussion on "people's tribunal on the contested citizenship in Assam".

On August 31, the government published the supplementary list of inclusions and exclusions (the NRC) that excluded 19 lakh applicants. While government officials have said that those excluded would be given the opportunity to get back on the list by establishing their citizenship, civil society groups have raised concerns about the process.

"Whatever maybe one's view on the merits of the NRC and its implementation, we must never cease to remain mindful of the fact that



Whatever maybe one's view on the merits of the NRC and its implementation, we must never cease to remain mindful of the fact that it has spawned an enormous humanitarian crisis

it has spawned an enormous humanitarian crisis," Mr. Mander said.

Anti-immigrant mood Speaking on the alleged harassment faced by many Bengalis and Assamese Muslims, scholar and activist Abdul Kalam Azad said an "anti-immigrant narrative" had been perpetuated against those with Bengali origins. "We have been harassed and called 'Bangladeshis, D-voters and non-citizens,'" he said.

Among those affected by the NRC, Masooma Begum, an activist from Assam, said she had been working to spread awareness about the process in Assam, but found herself excluded from the list, while her parents and si-

blings were on it. A law student from Guwahati, Prasenjit Dey, said while he and the rest of his family had made it to the list, his father had not, despite having submitted the same land deed from 1964 as proof.

"My grandfather had migrated from East Pakistan. He had a land deed from 1964 and had been voting since 1965. My father too had been voting when all of a sudden he was declared a doubtful voter in 2011. In 2017, when I graduated from college, I decided to start studying law and fight my father's case in the Foreigner's Tribunal," he said.

He said the tribunal had declared his father, Jiwan Chandra Dey, a foreigner be-

cause the land deed was hand-written, though he had also submitted the voters' list as another proof.

"We asked for time to get the land deed certified, but they did not agree. Ironically, we had the same deed certified and used it for our NRC applications. All of us, apart from my father, in the family have made it onto the NRC with the same document," he said.

He added that while his family was preparing to appeal his father's case in court, there were others in his village who had been "left in mental agony over the NRC".

Earlier in the event, lawyer Vrinda Grover said an "error-free and efficient NRC" was a myth and that there was the danger of people being "left state-less". "It wasn't just the government that drove the NRC, it was also the Supreme Court of India," she said, referring to the SC-monitored NRC process.

Among the jury for the tribunal, Justices Madan Lokur (retired) and Justice A.P. Shah (retd) were also present at the event.

Gurugram citizens release demand charter

11-point paper seeks better infra, women safety and protection of Aravalis

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GURUGRAM

Civil society members from different walks of life came together on Saturday to release an eleven-point citizens' charter of demands for Badshahpur and Gurugram Assembly constituencies in view of the Vidhan Sabha election a month later.

They stressed on better infrastructure, women's safety, social harmony and stressing the need to protect Aravalis and strengthen local governance, among other things.

Rationale behind move

Explaining the rationale behind the move, independent film-maker Rahul Roy said in the present political scenario the real issues were not being discussed and hence the need was felt to come out with this charter with the slogan "Baki chhodo, Gurgaon ki bolo [leave the rest, talk about Gurugram]. He added that those contesting the elections were the representatives of the people and were duty-bound to raise their issues.

Mr. Roy said a social media campaign would also be run on various platforms to reach out to the residents



Civil society members from different walks of life in Gurugram on Saturday. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

MAJOR DEMANDS

- Withdrawal of Punjab Land Preservation Amendment Bill
- Polyclinics in each sector
- Increased use of renewable energy
- Water supply to each household
- Better waste management
- Measures to tackle air pollution and groundwater crisis
- Improved public transport
- Increased police presence at metro stations
- Independent police complaints authority

creating awareness about the charter and seeking their suggestions and meetings would be held with the Residents Welfare Associations.

"The Charter of Demands is not cast in stone, it is flexible. We will reach out to the candidates in the fray telling them about the charter and asking for their commitment to implement it. The stand taken by various candidates will be shared with the residents to help them make an informed choice," said Arti Jainan State director of Gurgaon Ki Awaz, a com-

munity radio station. Talking about local governance, former MCG councillor Nisha Singh questioned the rationale behind setting up an agency like Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) that merely "encroaches upon the funds and functions of the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram". "The GMDA was meant to coordinate between different agencies and make high-level planning. But what it is doing could be done by the MCG as well. And there are no new funds

to spare for it. The MCG funds are being transferred to it," said Ms. Singh. She also demanded the constitution of Metropolitan Planning Committee. Ishrat Thameem, a former Managing Consultant, sought the creation of an inclusive society and demanded that land be allocated to religious minority communities for places of worship and burial grounds. He said a social harmony and a grievance handling cell and "Aman Committees" be constituted as first contact points in case of communal discord.

End of the road for the once-upon-a-time lifelines of city?

Tonga and rickshaw pullers rue the advent of technology in the form of e-rickshaws, blame government for turning a blind eye to their plight

EVA THAKUR
ANANT KAUR
NEW DELHI

Outside Kailash Colony metro station, standing next to his cycle rickshaw, Bhoo- pram, along with five other rickshaw pullers, waits for customers. While bearing the scorching heat is one of the main challenges rickshaw pullers in the Capital face, the advent of technology in the form of e-rickshaws is what they truly lament.

Similar is the case of tongawalas, once part of the characteristic charm of the Capital. Tongas were a popular and indispensable mode of transport for an average Delhiite in the old days.

While a cycle rickshaw can carry two passengers, a single e-rickshaw – a battery-run three-wheeler – can take a maximum of five passengers. In the times of e-rickshaws, both tongas and e-rickshaws seem to be headed towards an inevitable end.

Bhoo- pram, who has been in this profession for 12 years, testifies that he has been a witness to the decline of the cycle rickshaw busi-

ness. "I used to earn a minimum of ₹600 a day before the e-rickshaws made a debut. Now, it hardly amounts to a total of ₹300-₹400, which does not suffice," the 37-year-old said.

Dilip, 40, a tongawala who lives at Motia Khan Chowk, has a similar grouse. "It has been 25 years since I started...I was 10 when I saw my grandfather and father ride the horse cart and I developed an interest. Since the last six years the work is minimal. The government bribed us with false promises of allotting shops if we gave up the trade. Our community leaders built their own houses with that money," he alleged.

Dip in income

A Centre of Civil Society (CCS) research shows that while a cycle rickshaw, valued between ₹6,000 and ₹12,000, provides an earning of ₹300-₹450 per day, an e-rickshaw, valued between ₹80,000-₹1,10,000, can fetch a minimum of ₹550-₹800 a day.

According to Dilip, parking stands in trans-Yamuna



A tongawala during rain in the city. Tongas were a popular and indispensable mode of transport for Delhiites in the old days. *FILE PHOTO: SANDEEP SAXENA

areas used to provide private permits every six months for ₹101 followed by commercial ones. "We started with 8 annas per passenger, then ₹5 and now the rate per passenger is ₹10. On festivals, we could earn a decent amount. But these days, festivals have become a one-day affair. We are unable to feed the horses with a proper diet. Our daily income is not more than ₹600-₹700," he rued.

The rise of the battery-op-

erated vehicles is because they are a considerably "smaller investment" than autorickshaws, and produce much higher earnings.

Moreover, subsidies from the government and "loopholes in the system" permitting their operation without registration are "stimulating factors for the thriving business of e-rickshaws". Money is the core issue for practitioners of both the evidently dying trades.

"I used to own a rickshaw until four years ago. The municipality fined me a large sum for it. I had to rent a rickshaw after that. I have to pay ₹1,200 a month as rent to the rickshaw owner. What is left after that is not enough to suffice," Bhoo- pram, a father of five lamented.

Sachin Kumar, a resident of Badaun in Uttar Pradesh, spoke about his financial problems after he rented a cycle rickshaw. "I used to work in a meat shop. I committed the mistake of visiting my village for more than a week and was fired from the job. Later, I rented a rickshaw with a monthly rent of ₹1,000... I used to earn ₹16,000 a month during my previous job, now I barely earn ₹500 a day," he said.

Mohammad Farahatullah's family has been in the tonga business for seven generations. "Everybody is affected due to these battery-operated rickshaws... Our horse and carriage work is finished. Forty years ago, there were 1,000 tongas; now only 20-30 are left in Delhi. How should poor men like me

make a living," he asked.

Once they provided services to everyone – from an average citizen to royalty. Now, they ferry waste and rubble. The government, he complained, was blind to the plight of those like him. "Nowadays, we get work of picking up rubble, sacks of cement and garbage. When we don't earn anything, we survive on loans... This work is finished and nobody listens to a poor man. Even the Delhi government is not doing anything for us," he added.

Naveen, 39, another horse cart owner, sought to emphasise the fact that despite paying taxes and having all the required permits, licence, cart number and horse number, he still can't ride on the main road.

"It has been 30 years since I am doing this work. There used to be 10,000 customers for this horse cart in a month. I still have the permit the government issued to my ancestors," he said.

"These days, our source of income is just from marriages, birthday parties and occasional film shootings. First of all, no policeman lets

us stand on the road and I am forced to return," Naveen alleged.

Promises not kept

The fast-paced life has left the horses behind. "People are going to the moon. So how can you expect somebody to sit on our tongas? We own these horses, so we have to take care of them. We cannot kill them. Before elections, party workers come with promises, only to forget them after winning," he said. Besides putting up with relatively low income, cycle rickshaw pullers work twice as hard as their competitors. Needless to say, they would switch trades if given a chance.

"I have had some cardiac problems in the past because of the physical exertion caused by peddling the rickshaw all day. The e-rickshaw on the other hand requires almost no exertion and would be a better fit for me, if I had the money," Bhoo- pram said.

If given a choice, I would happily choose an e-rickshaw over the one I peddle for a living, said Sachin.

No bail to Michel in VVIP chopper deal case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Saturday refused to grant bail to Christian Michel in the VVIP chopper deal case.

Dismissing the bail application, Special Judge Arvind Kumar said: "As per CBI, the investigation is at crucial stage on some aspects and accused, being highly linked, may influence the witnesses to be examined and may tamper with evidence."

"He is a British national. It is noted that NBWs were issued against accused on 24.09.2015 and the accused was arrested in Dubai and thereafter was extradited to India on 04.12.2018. It is not that the accused had joined investigation in India or appeared before this court, on his own. The accused also did not join investigation in Italy. He cannot claim parity with other accused in view of his aforesaid conduct...Application for bail filed by accused is, thus, dismissed," the Judge said.

Matrimonial and Business Offer section containing various ads for marriages, business opportunities, and services. Includes categories like Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, General, Automotive, Situations Vacant, Medical, Foreign Cars, Marriage Bureau, Regional, Educational, Vacancies, and Finance.

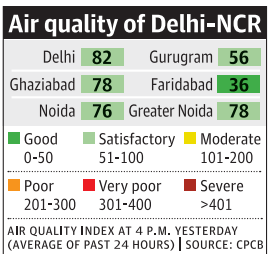
IN BRIEF

Youth Congress leader, supporters join AAP

NEW DELHI
Youth Congress leader Naveen Numbardar on Saturday joined the Aam Aadmi Party with 200 of his supporters at Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's residence. "I am very happy that I have got an opportunity to be a part of the positive work that AAP is doing in the interest of the people of Delhi," Mr. Numbardar said.

Bajjal to join Delhi govt's dengue awareness drive

NEW DELHI
The Aam Aadmi Party government's 10-week mass awareness campaign against dengue will see the participation of Lieutenant-Governor Anil Bajjal here on Sunday.



DELHI TODAY

Music: "Penny for a Song", an evening of opera arias and art songs presented by Sparsh Bajpai, a soprano and Dinal Renta, a pianist. The artists will present a varied repertoire of popular opera arias and sentimental German and French Art songs at C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre (IIC), 6.30 p.m.

Music: Bazm: Jashn-e-ghazal, an evening of ghazal music rendering by Oshin Bhatia at Amaltas Hall, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 7 p.m.

Dance: Bharatnatyam arangetram of Rajita Manoharan, a disciple of Guru Jayalakshmi Eshwar at Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 6.30 p.m.

Talk: Swami Prabhudananda will speak on Katho Upanishad at Ramana Kendra, Lodhi Road, 5 p.m.

Exhibition: "Urban Dwellings", a solo show of paintings by V. Ramakrishna at Triveni Gallery Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

(Mail your listings for this column at cityeditor@thehindu.co.in)

Freebies not a good practice, say experts

As Kejriwal announces welfare schemes ahead of polls, they say govts. increasingly taking this route

NIKHIL M. BABU
JATIN ANAND
NEW DELHI

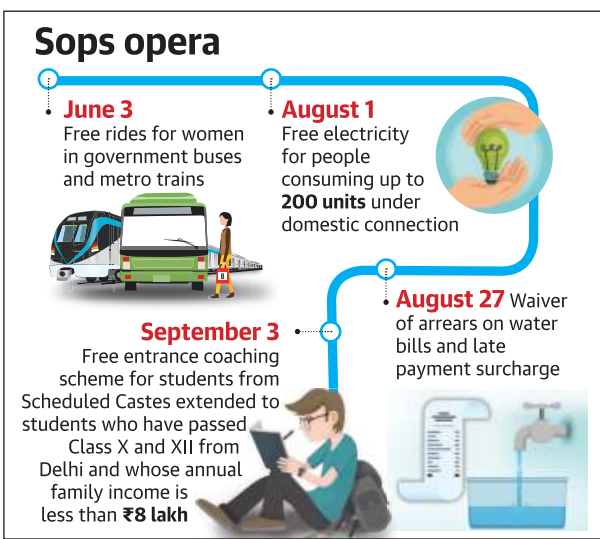
The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government's consecutive announcements of four "freebies", six months ahead of the Assembly elections in the Capital, may not be a "good practice" but incumbent governments are increasingly heading down the same road prior to contesting polls, said experts.

In the last three months, the AAP government has announced free rides for women in metro trains and buses, free electricity for people who use up to 200 units, waiver of arrears in water bills, and extension of free entrance coaching to all students whose annual family income is less than ₹8 lakh. Delhi is scheduled to go to polls in February, 2020.

"Since the normal development projects haven't delivered, political parties have to resort to the so-called freebies before election time to win the loyalty and allegiance of the voter. If you have done work during five years, then you won't have to resort to it," said political analyst Neerja Chowdhury.

Long-term projects
"It is obviously to get votes like other parties. That doesn't require much thinking. Ideally, it should not be close to the election and it is not a good practice," she said further.

Manisha Priyam, Associate Professor, National University of Education Planning and Administration (NUEPA) said governments should focus on long-term projects. "It [incentives before elections] is not a good practice. Governments should focus on long-term policy making. And do-



ing these short-terms measures show not having a vision to how you want to change things," she said.

Freebies, according to Professor Sanjay Kumar, Director, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) were neither a recent nor special phenomenon in India and were a usual offering from political parties in the run-up to elections.

"But every party, whether it is the Congress or the BJP, have all resorted to this. The failure of the parties and governments to deliver development to the ordinary people has led to the increased phenomenon of "freebies" and the parties have to resort to it to win over the voters," Ms. Chowdhury said adding that, largely, the announcement of such schemes close to elections were not well thought out.

"It affects the way people vote. Sometimes, it works and sometimes it doesn't work, depending whether other conditions are fine. People get a hope that life will be better. In Tamil Nadu, Chattisgarh and Odisha it has

made a lot of difference," said Ms. Chowdhury.

Does it work?
Mr. Kumar said that while they certainly do not have a negative effect on the chances of the political party at the helm of a government, the impact is directly proportional to how satisfied the average voter was with the entire tenure of the government in power. "Freebies work only if the people are reasonably happy with the government announcing them on the heels of upcoming elections; at most, in my view, such announcements add around 2% to 3% vote share to the party's poll prospects," Professor Kumar said.

Ms. Priyam said they were a mixed bag. "People have better memories of whatever is announced close to the elections. But it is a risk, as if people feel that you have not done much during your term and now in the last minute you are giving them this, then that is going to backfire," Ms. Priyam. "Rational debates that

The failure of parties and governments to deliver development to the ordinary people has led to the increased phenomenon of 'freebies' and the parties have to resort to it to win over the voters

NEERJA CHOWDHURY
Political analyst

should happen, does not happen and as it is done in a haste without legislative debate. These are meant to benefit incumbent governments," Ms. Priyam.

"They [incumbent governments] make irresponsible expenditure before the election and it is the next government which will have to deal with it. The current government is not liable to it and this is not a good way to spend public money," Ms. Priyam.

"Offering free rides is a clear freebie. That is looking at women as a vote bank. Certainly not all women need free rides," she added.

Mr. Kumar said that while welfare schemes in the form of power and water bill waivers could be justified when viewed from the perspective of promoting the efficient utilisation of scarce public resources, free rides on public transport were a different ball game altogether.

"There is, simply, no justification for free rides; this is pure populism. While there is a very strong possibility of this particular announcement consolidating the AAP's vote base among the economically challenged and underprivileged, it will further alienate the middle class which is already, seemingly,

moving further away from the AAP's support base," he added.

Experts varied in their opinion on whether it will help Mr. Kejriwal in the next election. "It will help Kejriwal in Delhi. The poorer sections are still for him," Ms. Chowdhury said.

Professor Kumar said that in Delhi, the slew of recent announcements made by the incumbent AAP government seemed to indicate the significance of the additional, though minuscule, vote share they could guarantee.

Opposition attack
Both the Congress and the BJP have been attacking the AAP government over these schemes. Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari said the AAP government was "admitting its weakness with every successive freebie" being announced by it.

"We have been saying for long and continue to believe that AAP is aware of the fact that its prospects are dimming. It is scared of losing the upcoming elections... According to a recent survey, even their free power and water promises are not benefiting a majority of the populace, that is tenants, because neither power nor water connections are in their names," he argued.

But, AAP Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam said that the schemes were not announced with an eye on the election.

"We had given 20 kilo litres of water free to every household [a month] within 15 days of coming to power in 2015 and we had also reduced electricity charges by half at that time itself. We have been doing these things," Mr. Gautam said.

DUSU polls: AISA, ABVP release manifestos

'ABVP should apologise over Basoya's case'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

With the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) polls scheduled to be held on September 12, the All India Students' Association (AISA) and the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) released their respective manifestos on Saturday.

While the ABVP released a five-point charter pertaining to various problems faced by the university, the AISA on the other hand claimed that the former should refrain from contesting the president's post as an "apology" for fielding a candidate last year, who had allegedly submitted fake certificates for admission into DU.

"The ABVP has not apologised for the Ankiv Basoya fraud. Students of Delhi University feel cheated. The

outfit should apologise to the students and not contest the president's post as a way to seek students' forgiveness," said Kawalpreet Kaur, president of the AISA's Delhi unit. The ABVP, however, maintained that "equality of opportunity is not a mere slogan but an article of faith" for the outfit.

Promises made
While construction of new hostels, free education for transgenders, students' representations in the DU Academic Council and extra writing time for specially abled students were some of the promises made by the ABVP, the AISA on the other hand, promised concessional metro fares for students, constitution of committees to deal with sexual harassment cases and providing a "violence free campus," among other things.

Counting of votes for JNUSU polls under way

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The counting of votes for the Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union polls began on Saturday after an 11-hour delay due to a deadlock between the students and the administration, the varsity's Election Committee said.

Students' bodies, however, claimed the counting began around 4 p.m. Outgoing JNUSU president N. Sai Balaji claimed that even though the counting was supposed to begin at noon, the Grie-

vance Redressal Cell, that comprises varsity officials, interfered in the process.

However, a varsity official said, "There was no interference from our side. Last night, the GRC had gone to meet EC members and the parties to discuss about the court order but there was no interference."

After the Delhi HC on Friday restrained the JNU from notifying the election results till September 17, it was decided at a meeting around 10 p.m. to go ahead with the counting, it said.

JNU sedition: BJP youth wing holds protest

Members demonstrate outside Kejriwal's residence

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Members of Bharatiya Janta Yuva Morcha, a BJP youth wing, on Saturday staged a protest outside Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's residence demanding that he give prosecution sanction to the Delhi Police in the 2016 Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) sedition case.

BJYM activists tried to move past a barricade near Mr. Kejriwal's Flagstaff Road residence but were stopped by the police. Several were taken away to a nearby police station from where they were later released.

"Kejriwal should clarify if he sides with anti-nationals who raised slogans like 'Bharat, tere tukde honge' in

JNU. If he is not, then he should give permission to prosecute the accused in the JNU sedition case of 2016," BJYM Delhi unit president Sunil Yadav said.

Mr. Kejriwal, on Friday, had said the Delhi government had not yet taken any decision on the prosecution sanction against Kanhaiya Kumar in the sedition case.

'No waste management mechanism in brick kilns'

NGT seeks report from pollution body

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Following a plea seeking remedial action against paper and road waste used in brick kilns, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) furnished a report to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) stating that there is no mechanism in place for waste management.

Terming the report furnished by the CPCB as "inadequate action", a Bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel

said: "The report acknowledges that there is no proper mechanism for plastic waste management, which is being dumped in open or burnt in brick kilns resulting in pollution. Action taken by the CPCB is the issuance of directions."

The Bench added: "Even with regard to the illegal import, the CPCB as a statutory regulator can take up the matter with the authorities concerned. The report cannot be taken as adequate action."

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Corporate Identity No. UA40109UP2001SGCQ25867 / 2358, V. C. V. Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun, Tel. No.: 0135-2763672-75, Fax No.: 0135-2760289, Website: www.uktenders.gov.in

CORRIGENDUM TO E-TENDER NOTICE

This office e-tender specification No. CCP-II/11/2019-2020 invited previously for supply of Single Phase (10-60A) electronic meter with box are hereby extended due to unavoidable reasons. The e-tender can be purchased and submitted upto 17:00 hrs. of 20.09.2019. Part-I of the e-tender shall be opened on 21.09.2019 at 16:00 hrs. Other terms and conditions will remain same as per original tender notice. For further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in.

Superseding Engineer
No.: 464/EE(CM)/UPCL/IA-2 Date: 06.09.2019 Corporate (Contract & Procurement-II)

SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION. Toll Free No. 1800 419 0405
"Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 from www.upcl.org" (For information on Electricity Theft, Informer may report to Toll free No. 1800 180 4185)

North Eastern Railway
E-Tender Notice
Opened E-Tender based on Single Packet system (Tender notice No. M/C&W/25/2019-20 dt. 05.09.2019) are invited by Divisional Rail Manager/Mech./C&W/Varanasi/NE Railway for and on behalf of President of India for the following work:-

Description of works : Operation, escorting duties and A-Check/Trip maintenance schedule of Greaves Cotton, Cummins India Ltd. & Kirloskar make DG sets/engines installed in LHB powers cars of Varanasi division for three years. Approx. Value : Rs. 9,58,84,081.65, EMD Money : Rs. 6,29,40,000, Cost of Tender Forms : Rs. 10,000/-, Period of Work : 03 years from the dt. of commencement, Validity of Offer : 60 days, * Date and time of closing of E-tender : 04.10.2019 at 14.30 Hrs. * Date and time of opening of E-tender : 04.10.2019 at 15.00 Hrs. * Tenderers may submit their offers online up to 04.10.2019 at 14.30 Hrs. * Please go to the website www.irops.gov.in to see the complete details and upload the tender.

Sr. DME/C&W/ BSB
CPRO/Mech.-108
About any Passenger Agency calling SMS on Mob. No. 09794845955
Do not smoke Bid/Cigarette in train

JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LTD
(CIN: U40108JH2013SGCQ001702)
Regd. Office: Engineering Building, H.E.C, Dhurwa, Ranchi

EXTENSION NOTICE
NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR EMPANELMENT/APPOINTMENT OF COST AUDITORS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019-20, 20-21 & 21-22.

JBVNL invites Expression of Interest (EOI) for Empanelment/Appointment of cost Auditors for the financial Year 2019-20, 20-21 & 21-22 through EOI No. 73/ PR/ JBVNL/ 19-20. The last date of submission of same is hereby extended and accordingly Interested firms having requisite experience in Cost Audit may send their application in prescribed format in sealed envelope super-scribing "Expression of Interest (EOI) For Empanelment/ Appointment of Cost Auditors" so as to reach in the office of General Manager (A&R)-Cum-CFO JBVNL, Engineering Building, HEC Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004 on or before 16.09.2019.

The scope of work along with detailed terms & conditions and schedule of fee together with Annex-I, II, III & IV are available at the website www.jbvnll.co.in which can be downloaded. The empanelment/selection of the Cost auditor shall be based on qualifying criteria given in EOI document.

General Manager (A&R)-Cum-CFO
Jharkhand BijliVitrans Nigam Limited
Regd. Office:- Engineering Building,
HEC, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004,
Contact No. 94311-35535
सहित एवं वापसी में ऊर्जा बचाने। कृपया अपनी रिक्वायर्स को टॉल फ्रीनं 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज कराएं।
PR No. 215474
General Manager (A&R)-Cum-CFO

पंडित जगतनाथ न समझे, वो कहानी हैं बी, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी हैं बी
P.R.216348 Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd(19-20):D

झारखण्ड सरकार
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, सरायकेला
“शुद्धि पत्र”
P.R. No-215148 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 19-20*D

एतद द्वारा सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला द्वारा प्रकाशित निविदा सूचना संख्या—DWS/D/SKL/10/2019-20 दिनांक—22.08.2019 को वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय, प्री बीड मीटिंग की तिथि एवं समय, बीड प्राप्त की तिथि एवं समय, बैंक गारंटी एवं परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय, निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय को निम्नांकित अनुसार संशोधित समझा जाय शेष यथावत रहेंगी।

वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय	प्री बीड की तिथि	संशोधित तिथि
30.08.2019, अपराह्न 04.00 बजे तक	06.09.2019, अपराह्न 04.00 बजे तक	
प्रो बीड मीटिंग की तिथि एवं समय	06.09.2019, 12.30 बजे अपराह्न। अगिला प्रमुख का कार्यालय पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, नया हाउस, जैती	12.09.2019, 12.30 बजे अपराह्न। अगिला प्रमुख का कार्यालय पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, नया हाउस, जैती
बीड प्राप्त की तिथि एवं समय	20.09.2019, 01.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।	21.09.2019, 01.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
बैंक गारंटी एवं परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय	21.09.2019, 01.00 बजे अपराह्न तक पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला।	23.09.2019, 01.00 बजे अपराह्न तक पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला।
निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	23.09.2019, 04.00 बजे अपराह्न	24.09.2019, 01.00 बजे अपराह्न

बूट - बूट नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूट की तरसेंगे
कार्यालयक अभियन्ता
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला

PR 216314 Water Resource (19-20)_D

Office Of Executive Engineer
Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Jamtara
Very Short Tender Notice
Tender Notice No. :- DWS/D/EE/JAMTARA – 13/ DWS/D/JMT/2019-20 Date :- 05.09.2019

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Nos of HYDT	Estimated Cost (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Cost of BOQ (in Rs)	Time of Completion
1.	Construction of HYDT 200 mm x 150 mm dia x 150 mtr deep bore well at Adarsh Gram Barjora, Panchayat : Barjora ,tola- Jholanga, block- jamtara under D.W.&S.div jamtara for the year 2018-19.	1 Nos.	2,13,804.00	4,500.00	500.00	1 Month

Date of publication of Tender on Web site 12.09.2019 up to 4.00 P.M

Last date and Time for receipt of Bid 20.09.2019 up to 3.30 P.M

Date of opening of Tender 20.9.2019 up to 4.00 P.M

Name & address of office inviting tender Executive Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Jamtara

Name and Address of Opening Officer Executive Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Division Jamtara.

Contact no of Procurement office 7717776462

नोट : निविदा एवं निविदा की शर्त विभागीय वेबसाइट www.daa.jharkhand.gov.in पर अपलोड रहेगा। इच्छुक एजेंसी परिमाण विपत्र वेबसाइट से डाउनलोड कर निविदा में भाग ले सकतें है परन्तु निविदा जमा करते समय परिमाण विपत्र का निश्चित मूल्य का बैंक ड्राफ्ट तकनीकी बीड के साथ अनुलपित करेंगे, जो कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, जामताड़ा के पदनाम से भुगतये होगा। निविदा की शर्त कार्यालय के सूचनापट पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

जिस अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी हैं बी, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी हैं बी।
Executive Engineer
D.W.&S. Division
Jamtara

PR 216350 Drinking Water and Sanitation (19-20)_D

कार्यपाल अभियंता का कार्यालय पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, सिमडेगा
शुद्धि पत्र
दिनांक 06.09.2019

एतद द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि बासेन एवं आसन ग्रामीण पाईप लाइन प्रालुपि योजना के निर्माण हेतु इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या DWS/D/PRWS/SIM-09/2019-20 जो विभिन्न सामाचार पत्रों में PR – 215106 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 19-20(D) एवं PR – 216198 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 19-20(D) द्वारा प्रकाशित है, को पुनः निम्न प्रकार से संशोधित किया जाता है –

1	Estimated Cost	9,44,13,901.00 (Nine Core Forty Four Lakh Thirteen Thousand Nine Hundred One) only.
2	Earnest money	945000.00 (Nine Lakh Forty Five Thousand) only.
3	Cost of BOQ	10000.00 (Ten Thousand) only (Non – Refundable)
4	Date of Publication of Tender on Web Site- http://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in	07/09/2019 up to 04.00 P.M:
5	Date of Pre Bid Meeting	13/09/2019 up to 3:30 P.M: in the office of Engineer in Chief Nepal house Ranchi
6	Last Date/Time For receipt of Bid	28/09/2019 up to 03:30 P.M:
7	Last Date Of Submission of cost of BOQ & EMD (Hard Copy)	30/09/2019 up to 03:30 P.M at Office of the 1.Executive Engineer, DW&S Div. Simdega. 2. Superintending Engineer, DW&S Circle, Gumla.
8	Date Of Opening of Tender (Technical Bid)	01/10/2019 up to 01.00 P.M:

अन्य नियम एवं शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी। कार्यपालक अभियंता
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, सिमडेगा।
(बूट – बूट नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूट की तरसेंगे)

PR216331 Drinking Water and Sanitation(19-20)D

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused namely **Danish@Mohd. Adil, S/o Mohd. Akil, R/o H.No. 10-B/65, Gali No. 12, Shiv Mandir, Majpur, Bhajan Pura, North-East Delhi and H.No. 105-A, Block-A, Subhash Mohalla, Gali Bajrang Bali Wali, Maju Pur, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **Case FIR No. 393/13, U/s 379/411 IPC, P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Danish@Mohd. Adil**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Danish@Mohd. Adil**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Processing U/s 82 Cr. P.C. has been initiated in the case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Danish@Mohd. Adil, Case FIR No. 393/13, U/s 379/411 IPC, P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi** is required to appear in this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **08.10.2019**.

By Order
Sh. Sunil Gupta
Metropolitan Magistrate, (Central-10),
Room No. 345, Third Floor,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/6556/CD/19-(Court Matter)

TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CONTACT
Mr. N SELVA KUMAR
PH: 98203 50726
selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in

Mr. GAURAV SEHGAL
PH: 98110 06590
gaurav.sehgal@thehindu.co.in

THE HINDU

EASTERN RAILWAY
Following e-tender is invited online by the Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah from tenderers having experience of similar nature of work and required financial capabilities including those registered with Irrigation/CPWD/ SEB/MES or any Public Sector Undertaking for the following work : **Under Sr.DEN/2/HWH : E-Tender No. 166_2019-20, dtd. 04.09.2019.**

Description of work: Repairs and renovation of bathroom, kitchen, out side plinth protection, drain, septic tank, front fencing wall, boundary wall etc. of quarters at BMAE, GRAE, JRAE, KQU, CDAE and other way-side quarters in section of AEN/ 2/LLH. Approx. Cost: Rs. 1,06,73,874.23. Earnest Money: Rs. 2,03,400/- Closing date & time of tender: 09.10.2019 at 14.00 hrs. The details of tender are available at website www.irops.gov.in Tenderers are requested to submit their offer online on the above website. No manual offer will be accepted. (HWH-160/2019-20)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.e.indianrailways.gov.in / www.irops.gov.in

THE HINDU
LET US KNOW YOU BETTER

Your feedback is valuable to us. Please scan the QR code or visit www.thehindu.com/feedback

You may call us at toll free 1800 3000 1878 or write to us at customercare@thehindu.co.in

The tender document can be downloaded from e-procurement platform in the website <https://tenders.tangana.gov.in/>

Sd/- Commissioner GHMC

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GHMC
Tender Notice No.: 48/CE/UMS/GHMC/2019 Dt: 07.09.2019 No. of works (12) GHMC invites tenders from suppliers/ eligible bidders for supply of Larvicide, Adulticide and other Entomological equipments for the year 2019-20 in GHMC for supplying the following materials/ equipments:

S.No.	Item Description	Quantity
1.	Larvicide	2500
	Dimethozuron 25 % (Kgs.)	600
	Prothion 0.1% in Ltrs.	300
	Dibutencarbamate in Kgs.	300
2.	Adulticide	3000
	Synthetic PyrethroidCM 5% (Kgs.)	600
	Cyphenothrin 5 % (Ltrs.)	600
	Cyfluthrin 2.5 (Ltrs.)	600
3.	Equipments	150
	Aqua Kofrine (Deltamethrin 2%)	50
	Portable Fogging Machines	300
	Knapsack Sprayers	20
4.	Powers Sprayers	3
5.	Vehicle Mounted Fogging Machines	

Sl. No.	Event Description	Schedule
1.	Start date of download of bid documents	07.09.2019 from 5.15 PM onwards
2.	AST date of download of bid documents	16.09.2019 till 4.00 PM
4.	OPENING OF TENDERS	16.09.2019 at 4.30 PM
7.	CONTACT DETAILS	The Chief Entomologist, GHMC 4th Floor, North Block, CC complex, Hyderabad – 500 063, Mobile No.-9440353993,e-mail:eswmc@gmail.com

R.O.NO.143/CPWD/GHMC/2019-20 Dt: 07-09-2019.

Valmiki community protests against TV show

Sporadic incidents of violence; Punjab govt. bans screening for a month to maintain harmony

VIKAS VASUDEVA
CHANDIGARH
Members of the Valmiki community on Saturday staged protests in parts of Punjab against a television show titled Ram Siya Ke Luv-Kush...



Valmiki community members protesting against a TV serial in Amritsar on Saturday. •PTI

They also alleged that the show distorts facts about 'Bhagwan Valmiki'. The State Home Department has issued an order to ban the show's screening. Several districts' administrations, including Gurdaspur, Patiala, Kapurthala, Nawanshahr, Ferozepur, Hoshiarpur, and Jalandhar, have already ordered suspension of the show's telecast on Colors TV with immediate effect for a month...

missioners as well. The prohibitory orders have been issued under Section 19 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, (Act No. 7 of 1995). Clashes reported Sporadic incidents of violence and clashes between shopkeepers and protesters were reported from some parts. In Jalandhar district's

Nakodar, a shopkeeper allegedly opened fire after a group of protesters forced him to close his shop. "One person sustained bullet injury. He is now out of danger," said Senior Superintendent of Police Navjot Singh Mahal. In Fazilka and Kapurthala also, a clash took place between shopkeepers and protesters, who were forcing them to close their shops.

The situation was normalised after the intervention of the police. Members of the Valmiki community, who were protesting at the call given by 'Bhagwan Valmiki Tiger Force All India Action Committee', took out marches and sat on dharnas at several places. They also burnt effigies and placed burning tyres on roads. Vehicular movement was disrupted after the protesters blocked the Jalandhar-Ludhiana highway, Phagwara-Nakodar, Phagwara-Hoshiarpur and Phagwara Nawanshahr-Chandigarh roads. In Amritsar, most of the markets and a few educational establishments remained closed. As protesters squatted on railway tracks near Amritsar, train movements on the route were disrupted. The shutdown evoked mixed response in the State.

'Centre mulling uniform policy to protect stray cows'

Gaumata is neither Hindu nor Muslim: Minister

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHOPAL

Union Minister of State for Animal Husbandry Pratap Chandra Sarangi said on Saturday that the Centre was planning to introduce a uniform policy for the entire country to protect stray cows. Addressing the 29th Indian Veterinary Conference here, Mr. Sarangi said 'gaumata' (cow) is neither a Muslim nor a Hindu. "Gaumata is neither a Hindu nor a Muslim. Cows can contribute to the economic development of the country," he said. Mr. Sarangi also hailed the M.P. government's announcement to set up 1,000 modern gaushalas in the State. "The Centre is planning to bring in a uniform policy for the protection of



Pratap Chandra Sarangi • FILE PHOTO

stray cows," he said. Replying to a query on the construction of a Ram temple in Ayodhya, the Minister said it was a matter of pride for the country. "The temple should be constructed at the Ram Janmabhoomi. (Mughal emperor) Babur was a foreign invader. There was no mosque there (at the disputed site)... only a structure." Mr. Sarangi also rebutted M.P. Animal Husbandry Minister Lakhman Yadav's allegations that the BJP does politics in the name of cows and Lord Ram.

Kolkata metro compensates residents of Bowbazar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

The Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation Limited on Saturday started the distribution of compensation cheques to residents of Kolkata's Bowbazar whose houses have either been damaged and those who had to vacate their homes due to tunnelling work for the East West Metro Project. During tunnelling work for the project, an underground water aquifer was pierced on September 1 resulting in ground subsidence (gradual caving or sinking) in Bowbazar, a densely packed neighbourhood. Over 400 residents from three lanes have been asked to vacate their houses. On Saturday, a compensation cheque of ₹5 lakh was given to 19 families.

Six held for smuggling pangolins

STAFF REPORTER
KOLKATA

Six persons, including a woman, were arrested for allegedly smuggling pangolins in Kolkata on Saturday. In a joint operation on August 6, Wildlife Crime Control Bureau and the West Bengal Forest Department officials had rescued two live pangolins from a house in Bhowanipore. Investigation revealed that the suppliers had transported the animals from Durgapur to Kolkata. Those arrested have been identified as Partha Das, Joylal Golder, Suprio Majhi, Sahana Molla, Sayed Abibul Hossen and Krishna Das. The vehicle that was used to transport the pangolins was also seized. Kolkata serves as a transit route for smuggling the animals due to its proximity to several countries in South East Asia.

AMU students lend support to jailed union members

They were held for 'creating disturbance'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GHAZIABAD

Around 200 students of Aligarh Muslim University took out a march in solidarity with two students' union members who are in jail since August 1 for "creating disturbance" on campus. The students had allegedly misbehaved with the Registrar and tried to lock him in his office. They also created a ruckus in the Vice-Chancellor's office in his absence. In a memorandum submitted to the District Magistrate, the students expressed concern for the outgoing AMUSU leaders Huzaifa Amir (secretary) and Hamza Sufiyan (vice-president). "We are shocked to note that fake cases out of political vendetta have been filed against them," the memorandum said. Demanding that legal

process be expedited, union president Salman Imtiaz said, "They are students and not criminals and should be dealt with accordingly. The charges are politically motivated." He demanded reinvestigation of the report submitted by the SIT. Local sources say that the district administration has added some previous cases against the union members which pertain to stopping a Tiranga Yatra on campus. University spokesperson Shafey Kidwai said the administration gave the permission to the students to give the memorandum as it was about expediting the legal process. The ABVP has demanded the lodging of a seditious case against those Kashmiri students who held a protest on Thursday on the AMU campus.

Tripura University V-C resigns

Sting operation by local TV channel showed him taking bribe

SYED SAJJAD ALI
AGARTALA

The Vice-Chancellor of Tripura University, Vijaykumar Laxmikantrao Dharurkar, resigned on Saturday two days after a local news channel carried out a sting operation that showed him accepting a bribe to favour contracts. University sources have confirmed his resignation. The university's senior-most faculty, Sangram Sin-

ha, who was in Kolkata, has been appointed as interim V-C till the Ministry of Human Resource Development announces permanent selection for the post, sources added. Registrar's request "The Registrar has requested me to return immediately," Dr. Sinha told The Hindu before boarding a flight for Agartala. Prof. Dharurkar took over as V-C in July last year and his tenure was for five years. He replaced Prof. A.K. Ghosh, who too had landed in controversy over corruption charges. The local news channel had played multiple videos and audio clips showing Prof. Dharurkar negotiating and accepting cash from a representative of a Kolkata-based printing company.

Selja takes charge of Haryana Congress, suffers a setback

State Congress women's unit chief joins ruling BJP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

Newly appointed Haryana Congress chief Kumari Selja suffered a setback on the first day of taking charge with the party's women's wing chief Sumitra Chauhan quitting to join the ruling BJP on Saturday. Ms. Chauhan, the president of the Haryana Mahila Congress, joined the BJP in Rohtak in the presence of State BJP chief Subhash Barla. Explaining her reasons for quitting the Congress, Ms. Chauhan said she did not support its stand on ending of Jammu and Kashmir's special status and instant triple talaq. Ms. Selja took charge as Haryana Pradesh Congress Committee president at a party meeting held here. The party, which had named



Ghulam Nabi Azad, Kumari Selja and Bhupinder Singh Hooda in Chandigarh on Saturday. •AKHILESH KUMAR

former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda as chairman of the election management committee, formally selected him as the CLP leader. Haryana Congress in-charge Ghulam Nabi Azad, who was in attendance, launched a frontal attack on the BJP at the Centre, accusing it of unleashing political vendetta. Mr. Azad said

AFSPA extended for six months in Assam

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
GUWAHATI

The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act has been extended for six months in Assam effective from August 28 after reviewing the law and order situation in the State, a government release stated on Saturday. The Act, which grants special powers to security forces to maintain public order in "disturbed areas", has been in force in Assam

since November 1990. The declaration was made under Section 3 of the AFSPA by the State Home and Political Department, the release said. 'Disturbed area' The State government under the AFSPA has declared Assam as 'disturbed area' with effect from August 28, 2019, up to six months unless withdrawn earlier, stated the release.

STATE HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF JHARKHAND
Government of Jharkhand
e-procurement Notice inviting BID
Ref No: SHAJ/Tech/Sisai to Shivpur/2019
1. State Highways Authority of Jharkhand, Ranchi invites BID for "Reconstruction of Sisai More to Shivpur Railway Siding Road in Chatra Dist. (Total length:- 7.47 Km). The approximate cost of the work is Rs.27.65 crore
2. The interested bidders who have experience in execution of similar works and required technical & financial strength may obtain Bid document from e-tendering portal www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in from 13.09.2019 (15:00 hrs) to 28.09.2019 (15:00 hrs).
3. The contractors are required to submit non-refundable document fee of Rs. 50,000/- (Rs. Fifty thousand only) in the form of Demand Draft in favour of "State Highways Authority of Jharkhand Fund" payable at Ranchi & Bid Security of Rs.27.65 lacs (Twenty Seven lacs and sixty five thousand.) only in the form of Bank Guarantee from a Schedule Commercial Bank as per prescribed format. The document fee & Bid Security should be submitted to the office of undersigned latest by 30.09.2019 (upto 15:00 hrs).
4. No claim shall be entertained on account of disruption of internet services being used by bidders. Bidders are advised to upload their bids well in advance to avoid last minute technical snag.
Member (Technical)
State Highways Authority of Jharkhand
Ranchi, Deen Dayal Nagar
(Near Office of Executive Engineer, NH Division, Ranchi)
Booty Road, Ranchi-834008. Ph.: 0651-2361306
E-mail: membertechnical.shaj2@gmail.com
PR 216451 State Highway Authority of Jharkhand (19-20)_D

कार्यपालक अग्रियता का कर्वालय
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गढ़वा
1st Call, प्रथम शुद्धि-पत्र
एतद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गढ़वा अन्तर्गत आमंत्रित ई-प्रोक्वायरेमेंट निविदा सूचना संख्या- DWSD /GAR/ MORBE WSS-07/2019-20 MORBE Rural Water Supply Scheme of Drinking Water and Sanitation Division, Garhwa जी PR NO. 215379 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 2019-20 डा द्वारा प्रकाशित है, जिसे निम्न प्रकार संशोधित किया जाता है :-
क्रासं क्र विवरण पूर्व प्रकाशित प्राकृतिक राशि संशोधित प्राकृतिक राशि
1 प्राकृतिक राशि लगभग (लाख में) 827.94000 (आठ करोड़ सत्ताईस लाख चौराने हजार) रु० मात्र 673.36000 (छः करोड़ तीहत्तर लाख छत्तीस हजार) रु० मात्र
2 अग्रयन की राशि (लाख में) 827940 (आठ लाख सत्ताईस हजार नौ सौ चालीस) रु० मात्र 6,74,000 (छः लाख चौहत्तर हजार) रु० मात्र
नोट :- यह शुद्धि पत्र परिणाम विपत्र का भाग होगा एवं शेष शर्तें पूर्ववत् रहेंगी।
शुद्ध - शुद्ध नहीं बरतेंगे तो शुद्ध को तरखेंगे
कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गढ़वा।
P.R.216417 Drinking Water and Sanitation(19-20)-D

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
SURINSAR-MANSAR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MANSAR
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
E-NIT No. 12 of 2019-20 Dated: 05-09-2019
Executive Engineer Surinsar Mansar Development Authority, Mansar on behalf of Governor of J&K State, invites tenders by e-tendering on item rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K State Govt. for the following works:
S. No. 1
Name of work Construction of Retaining Wall (in stretches) and Fixing of tile along the periphery of Surinsar Lake at Surinsar. Contract No 30, Surinsar Mansar Dev. Authority Mansar
Name of Division Surinsar Mansar Dev. Authority Mansar
Estimated cost (Rs. in Lacs) 150.00
Cost of document (in Rs) 1500/-
Earnest money (CDR/FDR) (in Rs.) 300000/-
Time Allowed for completion on 120 days
Time and date opening of tender 25-09-19 at 1100 hrs
Class of Contractor A or above
Technical Sanction = Under Process
Position of Funds = Under Process
6. Date of Publishing from 05-09-2019
7. The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http://jtenders.gov.in from on 05-09-2019 to 24-09-2019 (1800 Hrs).
8. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic form on the website http://jtenders.gov.in from 05-09-2019 to 24-09-2019 upto (1800 Hrs). The bids received will be opened at (1100 Hrs) on 25-09-2019 on line.
9. The complete bidding process will be on line. Bidders can resubmit/withdraw the bids as specified i.e. within last date & time of Uploading the tender.
10. Technical bids of bidders shall be opened online in the office of Executive Engineer Surinsar Mansar Development Authority on 25-09-2019 at (1100 Hrs)
Sd/
Executive Engineer
Surinsar Mansar Dev. Authority
Mansar
DIPJ-2539-P

GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD
AMARPUR DIVISION: AMARPUR
Memo No. F. TC-1(P-J)/EE/PWD/AMP / 4920-92 Date: 03-09-2019
CORRIGENDUM
Due to unavoidable circumstances the last date of uploading and submission of documents has been extended up to 09-09-2019 and 11-09-2019 in place of 03-09-2019 and 05-09-2019 of the DNIT NO.- 06/ CERWD(R&B)/ACE(P)/RBDQ/2019-20 of this office press notice inviting e-tender No:07/NIT/EE/PWD/AMP/2019-20 Dated: 01-08-2019, circulated vide Memo No.F.TC4 (P-J)/EE/ PWD/ AMP/ 3670-742, dated, 01-08-2019, published in the e-procurement System of Government of Tripura. <https://tripuratenders.gov.in>
All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged.
Executive Engineer
Amarpur Division, PWD(R&B)
Amarpur Gomati Tripura
ICA-C-1051/19

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,
DIRECTORATE OF FORENSICS SERVICES,
HIMACHAL PRADESH, SHIMLA HILLS,
JUNGA, INDIA, 171218
Tel/Fax: 0177-2752521/27, email: sfsi-hp@nic.in
"e-Tender Notice"
No. DFS (Plan/Mod/Nirbhaya-Equip)/2019 - 5458 Dated: 05/09/2019
Tenders bids are electronically invited from the reputed Indian/Foreign Manufacturers or Sole Authorized Dealers/Distributors/Agents for the supply of the following item(s).
Sr.No. Items Quantity EMD (In Rs.)
1. ED-XRF (Energy Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometer) 01 No. 2,50,000/-
2. Image & Video Enhancement System 01 No. 50,000/-
3. Digital Weighing Balance 01 No. 10,000/-
4. PCR Workstation 01 No. 10,000/-
5. Stereo Zoom Microscope 01 No. 10,000/-
6. Perpetual License of DVR Examiner 01 No. 50,000/-
7. Renewal of License of XRY Logical, Physical, Cloud & Camera 02 No. 50,000/-
8. Cymoacrylate Fuming Chamber 01 No. 50,000/-
9. DNA Sequencer 01 No. 5,00,000/-
10. Next Generation Sequencing Machine with Robotic Liquid Handling System for Library Preparation 01 No. 5,00,000/-
The detailed tender document with complete terms & conditions, technical specifications can be viewed and downloaded from website: https://www.hptenders.gov.in from 09.09.2019 to 30.09.2019 up to 11:00 AM. The last date and time for submission & uploading of filled in tender documents is 30.09.2019 up to 01:00 PM. The Tender will be opened on 30.09.2019 at 02:00 PM. All subsequent corrigendum, modifications and clarifications in respect of this tender will be published only on aforesaid websites only. The bidders are advised to visit the aforesaid website regularly. The bid shall be filled in electronic format on the schedule-'A' (BOQ) of the concerned item on the website https://hptenders.gov.in. The cost of tender form is Rs. 500/per set which is non-refundable and is payable in favour of Director, Directorate of Forensics Services, Himachal Pradesh, Shimla Hills, Junga in shape of Demand Draft, which shall be submitted either by post or in person before the date of opening of tenders.
HP/0342/2019-2020 (Director)

Office of Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, CAMPA, Jharkhand
Van Bhawan, Doranda, Ranchi
Extension of last date of receipt of applications
(Advt. PR No. 214520/17.08.2019.; 214586/18.08.2019)
Engagement of Senior Consultant (01 position), Consultant (01 position) and Research Fellow (01 position) on contract basis
Department of Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Government of Jharkhand, the nodal department for climate change in the State of Jharkhand is in the process of revising existing State Action Plan on Climate Change.
In this regard, applications are invited for the positions of (a) one Senior Consultant, (b) one Consultant and (c) one Research Fellow.
The candidates should submit the filled-in Application Form along with self-attested photocopy of all relevant documents/degrees/certificates to Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Block-A, 1st Floor, Van Bhawan, Doranda, Ranchi-834002.
The Terms of Reference (ToR) containing qualification requirements, experience, scope of services and expected deliverables etc. for each position are available on the website of Jharkhand State Forest Department (http://forest.jharkhand.gov.in).
The last date of receipt of applications is hereby extended to 27th September, 2019.
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, CAMPA
Department of Forest, Environment and Climate Change
Jharkhand, Ranchi
बुद्ध - बुद्ध नहीं बरतेंगे तो बुद्ध को तरखेंगे
PR 216280 (Forest, Environment and Climate Changes) 19-20 (D)



Dogs maul langur 'Lakshmi' to death in A.P.
KURNOOL
A grey langur, which used to accompany students to school at Vengalamapalle in Andhra Pradesh is no more. It was mauled to death by stray dogs on Saturday. The students who fondly called her 'Lakshmi' are grief-stricken. According to the school headmaster Sahik Abdul Lateef, a man, suspecting that 'Lakshmi' was damaging crops, caught it 10 days ago. He freed it only on Friday only to be attacked by a pack of dogs the next day.

Orthodox, Jacobite factions clash at Kandanad
KOCCHI
St. Mary's Orthodox Syrian Church, Kandanad in Kerala, witnessed a stand-off between the Jacobite and Orthodox factions of the Malankara Church on Saturday. Both factions claiming right over the church nearly came to clashes before the police intervened.

Telangana CM's image on Yadadri pillars to be removed

There will be no political symbols, says official

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD/YADAGIRIGUTTA
The Telangana government has ordered immediate removal of images of Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao and other objectionable objects on the pillars of Yadadri temple after they created a furore on Friday.
K. Bhoopal Reddy, Special Secretary to Chief Minister, issued instructions to officials that there should be no symbols other than those of religious significance in the sprawling temple complex that was being rebuilt by the government.
A release from the CMO said Mr. Reddy expressed anger at the carving of images of political leaders and party symbols, during his meeting with Yadadri Temple Development Authority special officer G. Kishan Rao, art di-



Tough task: Police trying to stop BJP activists, protesting over the controversial carvings on the Yadadri temple pillars on Saturday. • SINGAM VENKATARAMANA

rector Ananda Sai and others on Saturday. Mr. Reddy asked them who had authorised the engraving of party symbol and images of KCR, Indira Gandhi and Mahatma Gandhi on temple pillars. The release said Mr. Reddy was told that it was done by a couple of sculptors.
Earlier, tension prevailed at Yadagirigutta in Telangana

all along Saturday, with the BJP, the Congress, the CPI and the Hindutva groups raising questions about the controversial carvings.
Protesting members of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajrang Dal were taken away in vehicles by the reserve police and released later.
According to Bhongir DCP

K. Narayana Reddy, there was intelligence that a few leaders were out to cause law and order problem at the hill shrine. "We have allowed leaders from all parties and limited the number of devotees for security reasons. In all, 28 members were taken into preventive custody for causing public inconvenience," he said.

Pala by-election: Joseph to keep off UDF campaign

The faction will work on its own to ensure victory of UDF candidate Jose Tom Pulikkunnel

STAFF REPORTER
KOTTAYAM
Troubles in the embattled Kerala Congress (M) ahead of the Pala Assembly by-election has turned worse with the faction led by working chairman P.J. Joseph deciding not to be a part of the United Democratic Front (UDF) campaign along with the rival faction. Instead, the faction will work on its own to ensure the victory of UDF candidate Jose Tom Pulikkunnel, a confidant of Jose K. Mani, MP.
The shock move, according to the Joseph faction leaders, comes in the wake



P.J. Joseph
of "organised attempts" to heckle Mr. Joseph by the rival faction as was evident at an election convention in Pala the other day.

Jose Tom Pulikkunnel gets pineapple symbol
KOTTAYAM
Jose Tom Pulikkunnel, who contests as United Democratic Front (UDF) independent on being denied Kerala Congress (M)'s party symbol, is allotted 'pineapple'. Bharatiya Janata Party's N. Hari has been allotted lotus symbol and Nationalist Congress Party's Mani C. Kappen, clock.

A controversial editorial appeared on *Prathichaya*, the party mouthpiece, which obliquely sought to cast aspersions on Mr. Jo-

seph for his "image tussle" with Mr. Mani too has a bearing on the decision.
"There is no point in us continuing by bearing all the insults and hence the KC(M) district committee has requested Mr. Joseph not to come to Pala for campaigning. However, we will continue to work for the UDF candidate in this by-election by holding parallel conventions," said Saji Manjakadambil, a Joseph group leader. He also sought intervention from the top UDF leadership in resolving the issue.
Mr. Joseph told presspersons in Thodupuzha that the

situation was not favourable for him to attend the campaign by the UDF. He also reiterated allegations of the Mani faction attempting to take away the party symbol through the back door.
The Mani faction, however, appeared unperturbed by the announcement and said it had no worries whatsoever as far Mr. Pulikkunnel was concerned. "The UDF will definitely try to ensure the support of all. Whether the decision announced by the Joseph group forms part of his political stand is yet to be known," said Roshy Augustine, MLA.

Uranium Corporation urged to stop mining activity in A.P.

Rythu Coolie Sangham submits memorandum

APPAJI REDDEM
VIJAYAWADA
Days after the constitution of an expert committee by Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) to study the impacts of radioactivity on environment around Thummalapalle project in YSR Kadapa district, the Akhila Bharata Rythu Coolie Sangham, Andhra Pradesh chapter, has submitted a memorandum to the Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) representing local farmers.
Urging the UCIL to stop mining activity, the memorandum stated that the government has gone against the Supreme Court order, which makes it mandatory to take locals' opinion before taking up uranium mining. The UCIL is spending over one lakh crore on 13 uranium mines across the

country - Chennakesavulagutta, Pandra, Amrabad, Thummalapalli and other places in Nalgonda, Mehboobnagar, Kadapa and Guntur in A.P. and Telangana States, according to the two-page note.
The farmers' society expressed dismay over initiation of mining activity in 21,000 acres by digging over 4,000 borewells in Nallamala forest region, without having required permissions from the Forest Department. "Continuation of mining will have dire consequences," warned the society in the statement and added that such an activity will destroy the biodiversity and may lead to the extinction of Chenchu Adivasi tribes in the region.
"At a time the advanced countries like Russia and Japan are shutting down the

nuclear power plants, we are being euphoric about such a destructive activity," the memorandum said.
Following protests from local farmers in and around Thummalapalle in YSR Kadapa district and complaints by MP Y.S. Avinash Reddy and retired senior scientist from the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology K. Babu Rao, the APPCB has set up an expert committee to study the impact of uranium mining in the region.
The nine-member committee is expected to study the impact at Thummalapalle project, Velpula, Medipentla and Kottala villages, Vemula (M) in Kadapa district. The committee will be inspecting the industry and surroundings on September 9 and 10, and submit a report on September 11 to APPCB.

Under one roof



Communal harmony: The Panja of Muharram and an idol of Lord Ganesh are worshipped on the same pandal at Gauli Galli in Old Hubballi of Karnataka on Saturday. • THKIRANBAKALE

300 tourism projects in Kerala get nod

A CORRESPONDENT
IDUKKI
Kerala Tourism Minister Kadakampally Surendran has said administrative sanction has been given to 300 new tourism projects in the State.
Opening the Munnar Botanical Garden for the public at Munnar on Saturday, he said large-scale infrastructure building was going on to attract tourists to the State.
He said that in 84 tourism centres, the Green carpet project was being introduced.
The Minister also inaugurated the renovation work of the District Tourism Promotion Council's park at Old Munnar. He said that the government had allotted ₹5 crore for the construction of a parking lot at Munnar. District Collector H. Dinesan, S. Rajendran, MLA, among others, attended the events.

Kerala trust to honour Raichur boy's bravery

Kozhikode-based group will sponsor the education of 12-year-old Venkatesh

P.K. AJITH KUMAR
KOZHIKODE
It was a scene straight out of a movie - a young boy wading through chest high waters to guide an ambulance across a submerged bridge.
But 12-year-old-Venkatesh from Hirerayakumpi village in Raichur district was not acting when he helped show the way for the ambulance carrying six children and the body of a woman. He was risking his life, ignoring words of caution from his friends.
Little had Venkatesh imagined that his act would be recognised - not in his native Karnataka but from neighbouring Kerala. In recognition of his extraordinary act of bravery, Kozhi-



code-based Helping Hand Charitable Trust has decided to build a house for the boy and his family and sponsor his entire education. The Trust will honour him at a function here on Sunday.

"We were moved by his extraordinary story and felt that his courageous act needed to be rewarded," says Rasheed Thottathil, a founding member of Helping Hand. "We got in touch with

him through our friends in Bengaluru. We found that he was living in underprivileged conditions and was in need of a proper house."
So the members of the trust decided to build one for him. "We will also be sponsoring his entire education," says Mr. Thottathil. "He can study as long as he wants to."
He feels Venkatesh deserved to be acknowledged in Kerala as well. "That is why we felt he should be felicitated publicly," he says.
He believes that honouring Venkatesh would inspire others, more so as Kerala has been battered by devastating floods for two years in a row and its people know the significance of such heroic acts.

TTD to build another boondi-making complex

Decision taken to meet the increasing demand for 'laddu prasadam'

G.P. SHUKLA
TIRUMALA
The TTD is grappling hard to meet the ever-increasing demand for its 'laddu prasadam' from the visiting pilgrims. The production of laddus, which was just a few thousands a day during the early 90s spiralled up to two lakh by the end of the first decade of this century and at present it touched the three-lakh mark, thanks to the free and subsidised laddu schemes introduced by the TTD for the benefit of the pilgrims.
Having found itself in a difficult situation where the pilgrim demand for the laddus almost equalled its production capacity, the TTD immediately swung itself in-



Pilgrim-friendly: At present there are about 40 giant-sized ovens in the existing boondi-making complex. • FILE PHOTO

to an expansion mode and decided to go in for construction of an additional boondi-making complex at a

Genomic grid for India-specific cancer research: Minister

STAFF REPORTER
COIMBATORE
In a move to take cancer research to the next level and make treatment viable for people of different economic classes, the government has plans to set up a National Genomic Grid, which will study genomic data of cancer patients from India, said Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Aswini Kumar Choubey here on Saturday.

The grid to be formed will be in line with the National Cancer Tissue Biobank (NCTB) set up at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and will collect samples from cancer patients to study genomic factors influencing cancer and identifying the right treatment modalities for the Indian population.

"The NCTB is functioning in close association with the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR). NCTB, which has the capacity to stock 50,000 genomic samples from cancer patients, already has samples from 3,000 patients. The genomic samples will help researches to have India-specific studies on cancers. The government plans to set up the National Genomic Grid in the same style with pan-India collection centres by bringing all cancer treatment institutions on board.

"The initiative will be taken forward based on the standard operating procedures set by IIT Madras and guidance from ICMR. The grid will have four parts, with the country divided into east, west, north and south," said Mr. Choubey on the sidelines of the launch of the campaign War Against Cancer at Sri Ramakrishna Hospital, Coimbatore.



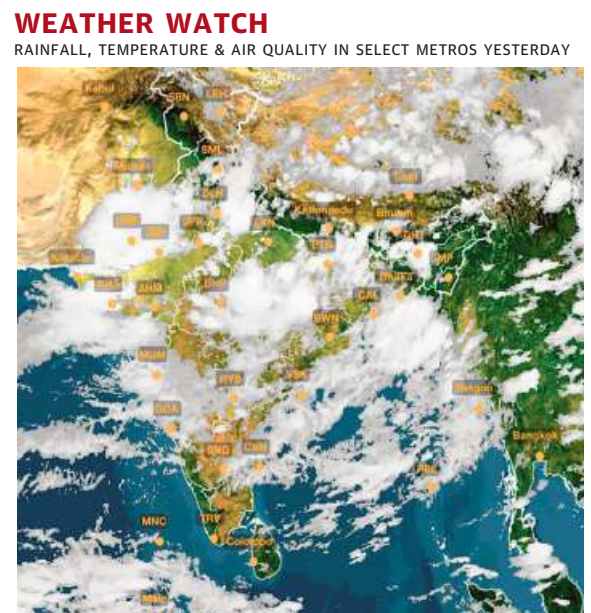
Aswini Kumar Choubey

According to the Minister, the first set of 350 genomic data of stomach and breast cancer patients developed from the 3,000 samples at NCTB will be released by the end of October.

He said that the government was on a mission to achieve the target of one doctor for every 1,000 people, a standard ratio set by the WHO, by 2022, against the current ratio of 1/1,400. Also, the government plans to increased the number of MBBS seats in the country from 42,000 to one lakh.

Replying to a question on widespread protests on the constitution of the National Medical Commission, the Minister said that the NMC Act will set new standards in medical education and healthcare through the introduction of community health provider and National Exit Test (NEXT), which will examine the capability of MBBS graduates before they are admitted to post-graduate courses or chose practising.

Stating that work on the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Madurai, is expected to be completed in 2022 at a cost of ₹1,264 crore, of which ₹5 crore already released, Mr. Choubey added that the Centre will also assist the State at 60:40 ratio to upgrade four medical college hospitals.



Forecast for Sunday: Heavy to very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over east Rajasthan, west Madhya Pradesh, Vidarbha, Gujarat Region, central Maharashtra, Konkarn & Goa, Chhattisgarh, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Sikkim, Odisha, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Telangana, coastal & south interior Karnataka, Kerala & Mahe.

Table with 6 columns: CITY, RAIN, MAX, MIN, CITY, RAIN, MAX, MIN. It lists weather data for various cities across India, including Agartala, Ahmedabad, Aizawl, Allahabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Coimbatore, Dehradun, Gangtok, Guwahati, Hubballi, Hyderabad, Imphal, Jaipur, Kochi, Kohima, and Kolkata.

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)
Pollutants in the air you are breathing
CITIES SO2 NO2 CO PM2.5 PM10
Ahmedabad 66 67 35 85 85
Bengaluru 13 49 84 84 84
Chennai 6 10 97 65 65
Delhi 14 59 46 174 135
Hyderabad 16 20 36 35 35
Kolkata 5 24 23 30 31
Lucknow 4 20 63 49 49
Mumbai 17 13 107 34 55
Pune 74 8 66 18 18
Visakhapatnam 5 50 44 29 50

Conduct railway exams in regional languages: DMK

They have opposed a recent circular

STAFF REPORTER
CHENNAI
Legislators belonging to the DMK have made a representation to the chairman of the Railway Board, seeking the withdrawal of the instruction to hold the general departmental competitive exams for railway employees in only English and Hindi. They urged the Board to ensure that all competitive exams of the Railways are conducted in Tamil and other regional languages, in addition to Hindi and English.

Families refuse to leave villages along Narmada

As water level continues to rise in the Sardar Sarovar Dam, the swelling backwaters have submerged several settlements

SIDHARTH YADAV
DHAR
Hiralal Solanki is waiting for the backwaters in the swelling Narmada to recede so that he can return home. Cooped up in a 10 feet-by-10 tin shelter at a relief camp with two younger brothers, a sister-in-law, and an assortment of recovered household items stacked around, he refuses to leave for Gujarat, where his parents were resettled more than two decades ago.

others have shifted to the camp set up by the Narmada Valley Development Authority (NVDA) in the neighbouring Nisarpur, which too is facing submergence.
Uncertainty remains
As Gujarat continues to raise storage at the Sardar Sarovar Dam at a menacing pace, those residing in 178 affected upstream villages of Madhya Pradesh stare at uncertainty. On Saturday, the level in the dam had risen to 135.9m, well above the 135m, that was to be filled by the end of this month as per the schedule prescribed by the Narmada Control Authority (NCA).



In deep water: Nisarpur, in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh, submerged in the Narmada backwaters.

Previously, it was ₹1,500," he said. "Back at the village, the same friend lent us money at no interest."
"The allotted land is arid and we're treated like outsiders in Gujarat," said Mr. Solanki's mother Durga Bai, who has come on a visit to care for her youngest son, who is suffering from typhoid.

SC nod for Puri eviction drive

STAFF REPORTER
BHUBANESWAR
Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta and Supreme court-appointed amicus curiae Ranjit Kumar said on Saturday that the Odisha government's decision to remove structures within a 75m radius of Shree Jagannath Temple was in sync with the grand design to make Puri a heritage city.
"The development projection made by the State government for Puri is in the interest of the people," said Mr. Kumar, adding that the administration is holding negotiations as it proceeds with the demolition



Demolition work in progress around the temple.

Free treatment for accident victims

STAFF REPORTER
BHUBANESWAR
The Odisha government on Saturday extended free treatment to accident victims in private hospitals having trauma care facilities of level-I standard for 48 hours.
"The Golden hour is very crucial for any road accident victim," said the State Commerce and Transport Department in a statement. "For reimbursement of the treatment cost, ₹4 crore is being provided at the first instance to the Health and Family Welfare Department out of the Odisha Road Safety Fund."

High Court lawyers rally behind Justice Tahiramani



Vijaya Kamlesh Tahiramani

Bench of Madras High Court Bar Association, represented by its secretary N. Ilango, have convened general body meetings of their associations on Monday.
"An unprecedented situation has arisen in the country with the Chief Justice putting in her papers in protest against her transfer. A majority of our members want to express solidarity with her and impress upon the Supreme Court collegium to reconsider its decision on transfer. However, a final decision will be taken by the general body," Mr. Ilango said.

Buddhadeb suffering from pneumonia

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA
Former West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, who was hospitalised on Friday, has been diagnosed with pneumonia, but remains stable.

DIRECTORATE OF ADMISSIONS
OSMANIA UNIVERSITY, HYDERABAD
Notification for Entrance Test for Admission into DBT Sponsored P.G Diploma Program: 2019-20
Applications are invited from eligible candidates for entrance test and admission into Department of Biotechnology (DBT) sponsored one year Postgraduate Diploma Program in Medical Biotechnology on Genetic Counseling with Special Emphasis on Prenatal and Postnatal Diagnostics offered by Institute of Genetics & Hospital for Genetics Diseases, Osmania University, Begumpet, Hyderabad.

भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान कोलकाता
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata
Advt. No: ISER-K/ACA/02/2019 Date: 08/09/2019
PhD ADMISSION, SPRING 2020
Applications are invited for PhD Programme of Spring Semester, 2020 at IISER Kolkata.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
Tender No : 7, 8/SE/PHC/TSR/2019-20 K1F8 - WSS to Chazhur, Thaniam and Anthikad
Tender No : 7, 8/SE/PHC/TSR/2019-20 K1F8 - WSS to Chazhur, Thaniam and Anthikad

INDIRA GANDHI MEDICAL COLLEGE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(Government of Puducherry Institution run by Perunthalaivar Kamaraj Medical College Society)
Vazhudavur Main Road, Kathirkamam, Puducherry-605 009.
Ph:0413-2277545, 2277543, email: puducherrymedicalcollege@gmail.com

UT OF LAKSHADWEEP
LAKSHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD. (A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Ph: 04842323448/458, Web: www.ldcl.gov.in
E-mail: amindivi@asianetindia.com

Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
No.8, "Samparka Soudha", Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar 1st Block, Bengaluru-560 010.
INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR COLLECTION OF ROAD USER FEE (SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION)
(on e-procurement)
Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited (KRDCCL) intends to invite bids from reputed agencies for collection of road user fee at the below mentioned road stretch.

Department of IT, Electronics & Communication, Haryana (DITECH)
On behalf of DITECH, National Institute for Smart Government (NISG) advertises for the following IT professionals on contractual basis for a period 3 to 5 years at the State HQ (Chandigarh) and District HQs (DSEOs only) of Haryana.
Joint Chief Information Technology Officer - (3), System Executive Officer - (50), Deputy System Executive officer (DSEO) - (17), Senior System Analyst - (1), System Analyst - (1), Senior Programmer - (1), Programmer - (6), Junior CB Officer - (2), Network Administrator - (1), Senior Network Engineer - (2) Network Engineer - (5), Senior Information Security Quality Auditor - (1), Information Security Quality Auditor - (1), Senior Information Security / Testing Engineer - (2), Information Security/ Testing Engineer - (4), Senior Test and Quality Engineer - (1), Test and Quality Engineer - (1).

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
O/o the Superintending Engineer (Projects-SZ), GHMC, Hyderabad
Tender Notice No. 14/SE (P-SZ)/GHMC/2019-20: 4th call.
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
S.No. Events Date and Time
1 Start date 09-09-2019 from 12.00 PM
2 Pre-Bid Meeting Date & Time 16-09-2019 at 03.00 PM

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD.
CIN- U40102RJ2008SC016484 (A Govt. of Rajasthan Undertaking)
KOTA SUPER THERMAL POWER STATION, Kota-324008
Ph. No. 0744-2371134/2370061 E-Mail: cektips@gmail.com
E-TENDER NOTICE No. TN-12100 (RVUN1920GLOB01050)
Online E-tenders are invited for procurement and works contract of Design, Manufacturing, Supply & Replacement of 2 Sets of Traveling Water Screens of Raw Water Pumps.

THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY
(A Central University Established by an Act of Parliament)
Hyderabad - 500 007
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (Eoi)
The Central Public Sector Undertakings having experience in turn-key solutions to supply and install IP based CCTV cameras, Smart Classrooms with latest equipment, and Video conferencing classrooms, are invited to submit their Expression of Interest (Eoi) by 19 September 2019 to the Registrar, The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, 1. The installation of CCTV cameras, 2. Establishment of Smart Classroom, 3. Conversion of a classroom into Video Conferencing Room should be undertaken at the University headquarters in Hyderabad, and its Campuses in Shillong and Lucknow.

FROM PAGE ONE

ISRO decoding the crash of Vikram lander

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Principal Scientific Adviser K. VijayRaghavan and former ISRO chairmen were in the mission control room of ISTRAC at the landing manoeuvre got underway. A success would have made India only the fourth country to place a spacecraft on the moon after the former USSR, the U.S. and China, and also the first to reach close to the lunar South Pole.

ISRO has now shifted its focus to making the best use of the fully functional orbiter 100 km above the moon. The orbiter carries eight of the 13 Indian payloads – three others were on the lander and two on the rover Pragyan sitting within it.

Life increased
In an interview to Doordarshan, ISRO Chairman K. Sivan said the life of the orbiter was now 7.5 years instead of the earlier one year as its fuel had been used economically. It car-

ries a camera with a resolution of 0.3 m, the best ever used in a lunar mission so far.

Soon after the loss of the link, an ISRO official said that over the next 14 sun-lit earth days, the scientists would try to revive its earth link. In a series of 27 tweets in the afternoon, Dr. Vijay-Raghavan said, “90 to 95% of the mission objectives have been accomplished and [Chandrayaan-2] will continue to contribute to lunar science notwithstanding the loss of communication with the lander.”

ISRO echoed the views later saying the orbiter’s “precise launch and mission management have ensured a long life of almost seven years instead of the planned one year.”

Dr. VijayRaghavan hailed the project review teams who resumed work after the lander’s failure. “They are already addressing causes and learning from the events,” he said.

We won’t stop, Prime Minister tells scientists

He assured his support for future endeavours of the organisation. “I want to tell our scientists, India is with you. You are exceptional professionals. You have given your best always and will give us more reasons to do so in future.”

President Ramnath Kovind, who was present at Sriharikota when the Chandrayaan-2 was originally scheduled to launch in July, tweeted: “With #Chandrayaan2 Mission, the entire team of ISRO has shown exemplary commitment and courage. The country is proud of @ISRO. We all hope for the best.”

Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu tweeted: “There is nothing to despair. ISRO only lost communication with the lander & not the hopes of 1.3 billion Indians. The or-

biter with its payloads is performing its mission.”

Mr. Modi was present at the ISRO Telemetry Centre, which was tracking the lander, during its crucial descent onto the moon. After a hiatus when it looked unlikely that there would be a signal from Vikram, the Prime Minister spent time with ISRO Chairman K. Sivan and children at the venue, who had won a quiz contest, and left.

He returned at 8 a.m. – an event planned well in advance – and spoke for over half hour commending the scientists’ efforts and urged them to persevere with future missions. Minutes before he left the venue, Mr. Sivan – who accompanied him to the waiting car – broke down and Mr. Modi hugged and patted him.

‘Most Kashmiris support decision on Article 370’

“If anybody is interested in restoring normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir, it is India,” Mr. Doval said. “We will not allow people to become victims of Pakistan’s machinations and its bullets sent across the border. We will do everything in power to protect the people,” he said.

Asked about the alleged human rights abuses by the Army, Mr. Doval pointed out that only the local police and Central paramilitary forces were deployed to maintain law and order. “So, there is no question of atrocities by the Army, whose job is only to fight terrorists.”

New Delhi for treatment, Mr. Doval said.

“Terror is the only instrument Pakistan has to create unrest in Kashmir.” Normalcy in Kashmir could be restored if “Pakistan starts behaving” and stops “indulging in subversive propaganda,” he noted.

Asked what India would do if Pakistan continued with its ways, he said “there is a solution to every problem.” He did not elaborate.

Mr. Doval justified the restrictions imposed on mobile phone and Internet services, saying they could easily be used by Pakistan and terrorists for subversive activities, but the denial of these services should not prevent people from going about their lives. “Even before Internet came into our lives, people were going about their lives doing business,” he said, while acknowledging that people were unhappy with these restrictions.

“In any society, people always want more than what they have. But to us their life is more important,” he said, adding that 92.5% of the geographical area of Jammu & Kashmir was now without restrictions.

Article 370 was nothing but a millstone round the neck of Kashmir. It was preventing people from having equal rights that other Indians had. For example, it prevented many laws from being applied to Kashmir, such as the Right to Education, women’s rights and minimum wages. It was only a tool of the political class to make money through corruption. “For the common man, there was nothing,” he said.

India goes on a diplomatic blitz on Kashmir

All missions have been told to work with respective governments on keeping the narrative on the situation positive

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

With the United Nations General Assembly, the UN Human Rights Council, the European Parliament and the U.S. Congress all scheduled to make references to the situation in Kashmir in September, the government has been working on a comprehensive diplomatic strategy to counter the concerns over the dilution of Article 370, the communication shutdown, detentions and alleged excesses by security forces in Kashmir, several officials involved in the planning told *The Hindu*.

“It’s all hands on deck for this month,” said a senior diplomat, who pointed to the diplomatic outreach over Kashmir as the reason for the cancellation of the 10th annual Heads of Mission (Ambassadors and High Commissioners) conference of the External Affairs Ministry, scheduled for September 13 to 15. The conference was due to be organised at the Statue of Unity in Gujarat, confirmed a Gujarat government official, who asked not to be named. The State authorities were making preparations for the conference.

“All our missions have been told to proactively work with respective governments on keeping the narra-



Game for fun: Children make the most of a shutdown in Srinagar on Saturday. ■PTI

tive on Kashmir positive,” the diplomat said. He indicated that the preparations would lead up to Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s address to the UN General Assembly on September 27.

However, when asked, the Ministry spokesperson denied the cancellation of the conference. He said the dates for it were “only being discussed internally”.

Jaishankar’s task
External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has been tasked with speaking to his counterparts in different regions, in-

cluding Europe, where he visited the European Union headquarters in Brussels, Hungary and Poland last week. The Minister will travel to South East Asia this week to reassure countries that might otherwise express concerns at the international fora.

Despite the visit, the European Parliament had seen one session of its Foreign Affairs Committee on September 3, where MEPs (Members of the European Parliament) raised specific concerns over the restrictions in Jammu and Kashmir.

EU officials say they cannot rule out another meeting.

Mr. Jaishankar, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale have been meeting various groups of envoys in Delhi in the past week to keep them briefed on the situation.

A special Ministry team, led by Ajay Bisaria, who was recently expelled as India’s High Commissioner to Pakistan, has been dispatched to Geneva for several weeks to work with the local embassy on countering any plans for a resolution or negative refer-

ences to Kashmir during the session from September 9 to 27. The team is “meeting key stakeholders, including all Human Rights Council members, to explain our positions and counter Pakistani propaganda,” an official said.

President’s mission
President Ram Nath Kovind is expected to deliver the same message during a week-long visit to Switzerland, Slovenia and Iceland. His trip to Switzerland will coincide with the start of the UN Human Rights Council session in Geneva, and a statement issued by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs said the “situation in Kashmir and India’s regional situation” were on the agenda for talks between Mr. Kovind and his Swiss counterpart, Ueli Maurer, in Bern on September 13.

“Each of these countries has its own concerns. So this is a very good setting to hear it at the highest level what our perspective is and what is there,” the Secretary (West) of the External Affairs Ministry said on Friday, when asked about the talks on Kashmir.

Of particular concern were a series of articles in international publications, including *The Washington*

Post, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, the *BBC*, *The Economist*, *The Independent* and *The Guardian* and other British and American news outlets, an official said, adding that the government had been monitoring them closely. According to one survey, more than 80% of the news coverage on Jammu and Kashmir has been “critical” of the government’s moves, and one study counted more than 65 articles in *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times* alone, most of which did not favour New Delhi’s view of the situation.

“Some of our detractors are spreading false rumours, including through the U.S. media, and it is malicious in nature,” Indian Ambassador Harsh Vardhan Shringla told *The Washington Times*, on Thursday.

Mr. Doval, who is normally reclusive, was tasked with speaking to the foreign press. He held a briefing on Saturday for a group that included the *NYT*, the *Post*, *Financial Times*, *AFP* and others, even as the government braces for more political activity in Washington once Congress and the Senate reconvene for their session from September 9 to 27.

(With inputs from Mahesh Langa)

RSS, affiliates meet in Pushkar

Three-day event is likely to discuss the situation in Kashmir and the Ram temple

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

A meeting of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and its affiliates started at Pushkar in Rajasthan on Saturday. It will focus on national security, tribal welfare and environment protection. The situation in the Kashmir Valley and the construction of a Ram temple at Ayodhya are also likely to come up for discussion.

Top leaders of the RSS, led by its chief Mohan Bhagwat, and BJP working president J.P. Nadda are attending the three-day meeting.



Mohan Bhagwat

RSS publicity in-charge Arun Kumar said over 200 delegates of 35 RSS affiliates were taking part at the meet-

ing. Prominent among these groups are the Swadeshi Jagaran Manch, the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, the Seema Jagaran Manch, the Laghu Udyog Bharati and the Bharatiya Kisan Sangh.

Sessions on varied topics
The meeting is expected to discuss strategies for ensuring the contribution of the RSS offshoots to national security. There will be sessions on land borders, maritime security and issues related to employment, migration and development.

RSS Sah-Sarakaryavah

Dattatreya Hosabale is likely to give his views on Jammu and Kashmir after its special status was revoked and the Ram temple on the final day. The meeting, being held at Maheshwari Seva Sadan amid tight security, is out of bounds for the media.

At the previous meeting held in Andhra Pradesh last year, the RSS decided to work on water management, environment and the empowerment of youth for one year through its affiliates. The work done thus far will be reviewed at the Pushkar meeting.

Muharram processions banned in Valley

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

The Jammu & Kashmir government on Saturday completely banned Muharram processions – where Shia Muslims observe the martyrdom of Prophet Muhammad’s grandson 1400 years ago – in Kashmir in view of the restrictions imposed after the revocation of J&K’s special status.

“In view of the imposition of Section 144 of the CrPC and in order to avoid any loss to life and property, the government has decided that no procession shall be allowed in district Srinagar

on Muharram 8th, 9th, 10th, which fall on September 8, 9, 10 respectively,” said the government order.

Traditionally, Shias would carry out a huge procession from Lal Chowk to Dalgate. It was banned in 1989 as militancy broke out.

However, large processions would be allowed in all Shia-majority areas of Zadal, Budgam and Hasnabad.

The government move comes after Shia Muslims clashed with security forces and raised pro-freedom slogans in Srinagar’s Hasnabad area and parts of Budgam district in the past 24 hours.

An attempt to silence me, says Shehla

FIR is frivolous and politically motivated: activist

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Responding to a sedition case registered by the Delhi police against her, activist Shehla Rashid in a statement issued on Friday termed the FIR “frivolous and politically motivated” and said it was an “attempt to silence her”.

The Delhi police had registered a FIR against Ms. Rashid on Wednesday based on a complaint by a lawyer,



Shehla Rashid

Alakh Alok Srivastava, who sought her arrest for allegedly spreading fake news against the Army and the Centre.

It was alleged that Ms. Rashid was spreading misinformation on human rights violations in Kashmir by the

Army, following the withdrawal of Article 370.

Ms. Rashid, however, maintained that her tweets were based on inputs received from locals in Kashmir. “In a situation where reporters are not allowed to report, media, social media, telephonic and postal communication are gagged, it is important to put out narratives of the people, so that the people in the rest of India know what is happening there,” read the statement.

‘No motive but truth’
While stating that she is a political activist who was

“doing her job,” Ms. Rashid added that on the Twitter thread posted by her, she had acknowledged the “positive work of the administration” as well.

The statement added, “I have highlighted the positive work of the administration in ensuring facilities to the people. That itself is proof enough that I have no motive except to shine light on the truth, which is corroborated by media reports published in India and elsewhere.”

Mr. Srivastava, in his complaint, said the forces had denied her allegations as baseless and unverified.

Spat in M.P. goes to disciplinary panel

Kamal Nath apprises Sonia of tiff between Digvijaya Singh & Forest Minister

SANDEEP PHUKAN
NEW DELHI

Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Friday referred the open spat between Madhya Pradesh Forest Minister Umang Singhar and former Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh to the disciplinary committee, said Chief Minister Kamal Nath.

This emerged after Mr. Nath called on Ms. Gandhi at her residence to brief her on the war of words between the former two-time CM and now a Rajya Sabha member and the Minister.

In a letter to Ms. Gandhi, Mr. Singhar alleged that Mr. Singh was trying to “blackmail and destabilise” the nine-month-old Kamal Nath government.

Sources said that Mr. Singhar too had sought appointment with Ms. Gandhi and former party chief Rahul



Kamal Nath

Gandhi to explain his side of the story.

“The president is upset with the latest developments. The issue has been handed over to the A.K. Antony committee,” Mr. Nath told presspersons after meeting the party chief.

Mr. Singhar had described Mr. Singh as “Super CM” after he started writing to Ministers asking for “reports

on development work and follow-up on his recommendations”.

“What is wrong in the letter if I want to know about the action on these letters in accordance with law. This is my responsibility as an MP,” Mr. Singh said earlier.

For the past one week, the State unit has virtually faced an implosion with MLAs and Ministers targeting their colleagues over charges of corruption.

Apart from Mr. Singhar, Gohad MLA Ranbir Jatav and Ambah MLA Kamlesh Jatav had made startling allegations against State Health Minister Tulsiram Silawat.

Many lawmakers have gone public about rampant corruption involving sand mafia and liquor vends.

“We campaigned against these issues during the Shivraj Singh Chouhan-led BJP

government and now we are doing the same. That’s why Singhar’s comments find resonance among the public,” said a senior leader from Bhopal.

In-charge summoned
Upset with the infighting, Ms. Gandhi earlier in the day had also summoned party State in-charge Dipak Babaria.

Mr. Babaria submitted a detailed report over the statements made by the State leaders and also mentioned some Ministers’ complaints against Mr. Digvijaya Singh.

“She has authorised me to take the strictest action against such people,” said Mr. Babaria. “We are a political party, nothing wrong in having several leaders and factions. The BJP has seven or more factions,” he said.

Swinging fortunes

In a matter of minutes, a loud and cheery group of space scientists, who were applauding as the lander was completing its final manoeuvres, suddenly turned grim after communication from Vikram was lost. A look at the events which unfolded in the early hours of Saturday

1.20 a.m. Chandrayaan-2's lander, Vikram, was to begin its descent in a few minutes. The screens in the command centre were not showing anything unusual

1.25 a.m. Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived at the mission operations complex

1.38 a.m. Vikram's four engines were fired. Fifteen more minutes remained for the estimated touchdown. Excited spectators clapped and cheered the lander's moves

1.51 a.m. Vikram completed its rough and fine braking phases. It entered the vertical descent phase. ISRO chief K. Sivan briefed the Prime Minister

2.00 a.m. Prime Minister Modi left the viewing area. The estimated touchdown time had passed. Tense silence prevailed all over the command centre

2.16 a.m. Dr. Sivan delivered the bad news. "Vikram lander descent was as planned and normal performance observed up to an altitude of 2.1 km. Subsequently communications from lander was lost. The data is being analysed," he said

15 nervous minutes that united India

The nation, led by the Prime Minister, stayed awake with the scientists at the ISRO command centre as they went through a range of emotions tracking Vikram

I think we need not worry too much ... I will rate more than 95% of the mission objectives have been achieved ... already, orbiter is in space and it should do an excellent job of mapping

MADHAVAN NAIR, FORMER ISRO CHAIRMAN

We should not be too discouraged. India was trying to do something very, very difficult. In fact, everything was going as planned as the lander came down

JERRY LININGER, FORMER NASA ASTRONAUT

There's nothing like failure in science, we experiment & we gain. Massive respect for the scientists at ISRO who worked relentlessly over days & nights. The nation is proud of you, Jai Hind!

VIRAT KOHLI, CAPTAIN, INDIAN MEN'S CRICKET TEAM

It's only a failure if we don't learn from our setbacks. We will come back stronger! I salute the great spirit of team ISRO for making a billion Indians dream together, as one. The best is definitely yet to come

GAUTAM BHAMBHIR, BJP MP

Smiles vanished, tension took over

PRAVEEN S. BENGALURU

The anticipation across the country to watch Chandrayaan-2's lander Vikram set down on the moon was akin to the feverish wait of a sports fan prior to a big game.

By nightfall on Friday, #Chandrayaan2 was on top of the India Twitter trends with about 1,00,000 tweets every hour. National Geographic had roped in a former NASA astronaut for its live telecast of the event.

Celebrities across the world – including astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson and entrepreneur Jeff Bezos – cheered for India in its second lunar exploration mission.

Some 400 journalists gathered at a makeshift media centre in an expansive lawn at the ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC) in Bengaluru.

Television reporters and camera persons jostled to get the best shots. A few others were mining information from a few scientists and science writers present.

Defining moment

Four hundred metres away, at the Mission Operations Complex (MOX), ISRO scientists, headed by Chairman K. Sivan, were awaiting the defining moment of their years-long work. As the space vehicle approached its destination, the women and men who had toiled on it, were hoping and continuing to work for its successful soft-landing. Accompanying the scientists at the MOX

ISRO emerges the star of the show

We are proud of your efforts and wish you all the best, political leaders say

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Support and words of encouragement for the scientists of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) poured in on Saturday as they lauded its efforts behind Chandrayaan-2.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi said the ISRO had placed India among the world space powers and had inspired generations.

"We owe a great debt to ISRO and the brilliant men and women who staff it. Their hard work and dedication has earned India a place

and every obstacle is a stepping stone to future success. Chandrayaan-2 has laid the foundation for achieving greater feats and the entire country awaits in anticipation for traversing the next frontier of space."

'Never lose'

While Defence Minister Rajnath Singh quoted a line from a Hindi poem that said "those who try never lose", Home Minister Amit Shah said the ISRO's achievement in getting Chandrayaan-2 so far had made every Indian proud.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi praised the scientists for their "incredible work", and wished for more path-breaking discoveries.

"Your passion & dedication is an inspiration to every Indian. Your work is not in vain. It has laid the foundation for many more path breaking & ambitious Indian space missions," Mr. Gandhi tweeted.

Sitaram Yechury, general secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), expressed confidence that the next steps would be "more satisfying".

Landers are always on a slippery slope

Only on April 11, Beresheet, an Israeli private mission, crashed on the moon

JACOB KOSHY NEW DELHI

It could be weeks before the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) reveals what precisely prevented lander Vikram from making a smooth touchdown on the moon, but the most recent failure of a similar sort is Beresheet, a private moon mission by Israeli non-profit organisation SpaceIL. It crashed on the lunar surface on April 11.

Beresheet was launched aboard a Falcon rocket made by the U.S.-based Space X, and at \$100 million (₹700 crore approximately), it was cheaper than Chandrayaan-2 that cost about \$140 million (₹980 crore approximately). Beresheet's journey lasted 49 days, compared to ISRO's 46.

The Israeli spacecraft had

a rocky journey through space. However, telemetry data suggested that the lander was performing well until about 500 metres from its scheduled touchdown on the moon. The gyroscope engine that keeps the spacecraft oriented and regulates its speed reportedly failed and given that the object was plummeting at nearly 500 kmph, was impossible to control by earth-bound scientists.

"The key challenge of landers is the large communication lag once it starts descending. The NASA's Mars mission had its equivalent seven minutes of terror like the ISRO's 15 minutes of today... This is a technological limitation that, even in principle, cannot be overcome," according to Jatan Mehta, science writer and a former science officer with Team Indus, a private space-based company once set to launch a lander mission from India.

A key challenge with understanding what precisely went wrong with Vikram is that there is no 'black box' that can be retrieved or examined as in the case of a plane crash. Scientists can only rely on telemetry data that was beamed. "While complex, the causes can be determined though because landers everywhere have similar basic features – like a car," Mr. Mehta reckoned.

China for its part has had the most recent successes with landers with its Chang'e 3 and Chang'e 4 in 2013 and 2018 both landing on the moon as planned.

Launches to resume in October: Sivan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

ISRO is returning to its routine missions starting the end of October, Chairman K. Sivan said on Saturday.

Speaking to state broadcaster Doordarshan News, Dr. Sivan said the landing failure of Chandrayaan-2 did not affect ongoing projects. RISAT-2B was the last to be launched on May 22.

ISRO would take up Cartosat-3, a high-resolution earth observation satellite, in October. Within a week of it it would launch RISAT-2BRI.

Work would continue on the flagship Gaganyaan crewed mission set for 2022, he said.

It's open season on Twitter

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Pakistan Minister for Science and Technology Fawad Chaudhry was quick to take a jibe at Chandrayaan-2, terming the spacecraft a mere "toy".

Twitterati on Saturday came hard on trolls coming from Pakistan after communication with the Vikram lander was lost. Tweeple slammed Pakistani handles for short-sightedness and being unable to understand the significance of the mission for the subcontinent. "India didn't fail... We just lost contact with the moon lander," posted another.

Gaganyaan for manned space mission on track: official

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The Chandrayaan-2 mission will "absolutely have no impact" on ISRO's ambitious manned mission Gaganyaan, scheduled to be launched in 2022, an Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) official said here on Saturday.

P.G. Diwakar, who was earlier Scientific Secretary at the space agency and is now the Director of Earth Observations Applica-



sions and Disaster Management Programme Office at the ISRO headquarters in Bengaluru, said both Chandrayaan and Gaganyaan had different objectives and dimensions.

Zero impact

"There will be absolutely no problem at all. It will have no impact. The satellite missions as well as the human space flight mission will go very smoothly without any problem. Each mis-

sion is of a different type," he said. Mr. Diwakar, however, declined to comment on the reasons behind the glitches faced during the landing of Chandrayaan-2.

The lander Vikram lost contact, just 2.1 km above the lunar surface.

The ISRO plans to send three Indians to space by 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced during his last Independence Day speech.

Besides this, the ISRO will also launch Aditya L-1, India's first solar mission, by next year.

There are plans to build a

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA
NIRMAN SOUDHA, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)
E-mail ID: cebuildings_onssa@yahoo.co.in, cebuildings@rediffmail.com
E-mail ID: cebuildings_onssa@yahoo.co.in, cebuildings@rediffmail.com
Tel: (0674)-2391523, Fax: (0674)-2395245

File No. B-I- (STME) 23/15 (Pt) No. 37394 Dt. 6th Sept. 2019

Invitation for Bids
Bid Identification No. CE(B) – 06 / 2019-20

1.	The Chief Engineer (Buildings) Odisha, Bhubaneswar, on behalf of Works Deptt., Govt. of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE only.
2.	Nature of work : Electrical Installation work (External Power supply to Sainik School Campus Buildings)
3.	No. of work : 01 no.
4.	Bid Cost : ₹ 10,000/-
5.	Class of Contractor : Electrical Contractor having valid HT electrical license issued from ELBO
6.	Availability of Bid Documents in the website : From dt.12.09.2019 to 17:00 hours of dt.27.09.2019.
7.	Date of Opening of Bid : Dt.30.09.2019 at 11:30 AM.
8.	The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website : https://tendersodisha.gov.in . Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

I&PR- 34117/11/0022/1920 Sd/- Chief Engineer (Buildings), Odisha

Rajnath visits demilitarised zone on last day of S. Korea trip

He held talks with country's top military brass during his visit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

On the last day of his trip to South Korea, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday visited the demilitarised zone where North Korean leader Kim Jong-un met South Korean President Moon Jae-in in April last year, ending decades-long hostilities between the two neighbours.

Mr. Singh held extensive talks with the top military brass of South Korea during his three-day visit.

He held talks with his South Korean counterpart Jeong Kyeong-doo on Friday to boost bilateral defence ties, particularly on enhancing cooperation between defence firms of the two countries and extending logistical support to each other's navies.



The way to peace: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at the bridge that connects North and South Korea in Dobodari on Saturday. •PTI

"Visited the historic site where South Korean President Moon Jae-in and the North Korean leader Kim Jong-un attended tree planting ceremony during the inter-Korean summit at Panmunjom on April 27, 2018," Mr. Singh said in a tweet.

The Minister also visited the 'Dobodari' bridge that connects South Korea with

North Korea.

"As we approach the first anniversary of the Pyongyang Declaration, it is time for us to reiterate our commitment to the path of peace," he said.

India has always supported efforts to bring in peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula through dialogue and diplomacy, he said.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, Bhawanipatna
NOTICE
FOR PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH "e"-Procurement
Bid identification No. BPT/Online-08/2019-20

The Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Bhawanipatna on behalf of Odisha State Rural Road Agency invites the percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the districts of Kalahandi & Nuapada for 05 Packages (Five) number of packages with estimated cost totalling to Rs.14.15 Cr (Approximate) including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with State PWD / CPWD / MES / Railways. The registered bidder of outside Odisha, can also participate in this process, but shall have to subsequently undergo registration with the appropriate authority of the State Govt. preferably within a month of the deadline for bid submission, but prior to signing of the contract Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement. **Dtd.16.09.2019.**

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in www.pmgstenders.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (a) (ii) of ITB in the O/o the Engineer-In-Chief, Rural Works (PMGSY Branch), Odisha, Bhubaneswar/Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Bhawanipatna/ Concerned Executive Engineers, R.W.Division (as per Tender Call Notice), **on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive.**

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 09.10.2019 up to 5.00 P.M
For further details and corrigendum/addendum (if any) please log on to www.pmgstenders.gov.in.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
R.W.Circle, Bhawanipatna

I&PR-25102/11/0008/1920

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT
571, Anna Salai, Nandanam P.O. Chennai 600 035

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(State Level Tender Under Two Cover System)
Under the Scheme for Poultry Development 2019-20,
sealed tenders are invited from eligible tenderers for the procurement of 60 lakh, 4 weeks old Aseel birds, over a period of 5 months

TENDER ROC. No.12861/PP2/2019, Dated: 04 /09 /19

Tender fee	Rs10,000/- (Inclusive of All Taxes) to be obtained in person Rs.10,200/- (Inclusive of All Taxes) to get by Post
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.30.00 Lakhs (Rupees Thirty lakhs only)
Date and Time of commencement of sale of tender document	From 09.09.2019, 11.00 am to 5.00 pm on all working days
Last date for sale of tender document	09.10.2019 till 5.00 pm
Date, time and venue of pre-bid meeting	23.09.2019, 11.00am, at the Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, No.571, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035.
Due date, time for submission of filled tender documents	Up to 10.10.2019 till 11.00 am.
Date and time of opening of Technical Bid	10.10.2019 at 11.30 am

Individual tender documents with full details can be downloaded from www.tenders.tn.gov.in at free of cost. Corrigendum to this publication if any would appear only on the above website.

Director of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Chennai

DIPR/3074/TENDER/2019



ELSEWHERE

U.S. will raise Uighur issue at UNGA: Pompeo

WASHINGTON
U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said on Friday that the U.S. would use the UN General Assembly this month to persuade countries to help “call out” China over treatment of its Uighur Muslim minority. “We want freedom for those folks. ... this is about their fundamental unalienable rights for those particular individuals.” REUTERS

U.S. launches anti-trust probe against tech firms

SAN FRANCISCO
The U.S. Department of Justice has asked Google to provide records on past investigations, as part of its extensive probe of tech giants over possible anti-competitive practices, the Internet titan said Friday. The probe appears directed at dominant tech players. AFP

African Union lifts suspension of Sudan

ADDIS ABABA
The African Union (AU) has lifted its suspension of Sudan three months after freezing its membership. The AU's Peace and Security Council said Friday that the decision followed the announcement of Sudan's first Cabinet since the ousting of veteran leader Omar al-Bashir. AFP

Israel strikes Gaza after rocket attack

JERUSALEM
Israeli forces attacked Hamas positions in Gaza after rockets fired from the enclave hit the country, the military said early on Saturday. The exchange came hours after two Palestinian teenagers were killed by Israeli fire during clashes on the Gaza border. AFP

British MPs prepare for legal action to enforce Brexit delay

Lawmakers to go to court if Johnson defies Parliament

REUTERS
LONDON
British lawmakers are preparing legal action in case Prime Minister Boris Johnson tries to defy legislation compelling him to seek a further delay to Brexit, Opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn said on Saturday.
An Opposition Bill, which would force Mr. Johnson to ask the European Union (EU) for an extension to Britain's departure to avoid an Oct. 31 exit without a transition deal, was approved by Parliament's appointed upper chamber, the House of Lords, on Friday. Queen Elizabeth is expected to sign it into law on Monday.



An anti-government demonstration in London on Saturday. • AFP

The BBC said earlier that lawmakers, including moderate Conservatives expelled this week from their party chamber, the House of Lords, on Friday. Queen Elizabeth is expected to sign it into law on Monday.

SUDOKU

1			2	5				7
4	3				9			
	2			8			9	
		3			5		7	
		7				9		
	5		8			3		
	6			2			1	
			9				6	5
5				6	1			8

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	6	5	1	2	9	3	7	8
3	2	9	7	5	8	6	1	4
1	7	8	4	6	3	5	2	9
7	9	3	5	4	6	2	8	1
8	1	4	3	7	2	9	5	6
6	5	2	8	9	1	7	4	3
2	3	7	6	8	4	1	9	5
5	8	6	9	1	7	4	3	2
9	4	1	2	3	5	8	6	7

Russia, Ukraine exchange prisoners

This comes after weeks of negotiations between the sides, who have been fighting since 2014

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KIEV

Russia and Ukraine carried out a long-awaited swap of 70 prisoners on Saturday, in a deal hailed by President Volodymyr Zelensky as a “first step” towards ending their conflict. Planes carrying 35 prisoners from each side landed simultaneously in Moscow and Kiev, where the passengers emerged under sunny skies.
“We have taken the first step,” Mr. Zelensky said on the tarmac after greeting and hugging former prisoners. “We have to take all the steps to finish this horrible war.”

Emotional scenes

In emotional scenes at Kiev's Boryspil airport, family members embraced and handed flowers to the former prisoners, many weeping with joy. Among those swapped were 24 Ukrainian sailors, Ukrainian filmmaker Oleg Sentsov and Russian-Ukrainian journalist Kyrylo Vyshynsky.
Russian state television showed the Russian prisoners emerging from the plane



To prison and back: Ukrainian filmmaker Oleg Sentsov, who was jailed on terrorism charges in Russia, gets off a plane on Saturday upon arrival in Kiev after the prisoner swap. • REUTERS

at Moscow's Vnukovo-2 airport used for government flights. Ukraine's SBU security service confirmed that Vladimir Tsemakh – a fighter with Moscow-backed separatists considered a key witness in the downing of flight MH17 – was handed over to Russia despite pleas from the Netherlands.

Anticipation had been building for days for the exchange, which involved weeks of behind-the-scenes negotiations. Relations between Kiev and Moscow nosedived in 2014 when Russia annexed Crimea and began backing separatists in the eastern industrial regions of Donetsk and Lugansk. Fighting there has claimed more than 13,000 lives over the past five years.

Mr. Zelensky's election in April has raised hopes that a stalled peace process could be revived.
The comedian-turned-politician vowed during his campaign to have Ukrainian prisoners in Russia returned

Iran seizes boat in Strait of Hormuz, arrests 12

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TEHRAN

Iran seized a boat and arrested 12 Filipinos as it busted a “fuel-smuggling ring” in the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday, the semi-official news agency ISNA reported.
“A foreign tugboat was confiscated as well as 2,83,900 litres (75,000 gallons) of petrol worth 233.71 billion rials (about \$2 million),” ISNA said, citing the Coast Guard chief in the

southern province of Hormozgan.
“Twelve Philippine nationals were arrested and the relevant judiciary officials are currently taking the required legal measures,” Major Hossein Dehaki was quoted as saying.
Earlier, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps detained a “foreign tanker” in Gulf waters on July 14 for allegedly smuggling contraband fuel.

Kabul welcomes U.S. assurances on Taliban deal

Afghanistan has seen a surge in violence after an ‘in-principle’ agreement was reached with militants

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KABUL

The Afghan government on Saturday welcomed a pledge by the Pentagon that the U.S. would only accept a “good deal” from the Taliban after a wave of insurgent attacks sparked concerns of a hasty U.S. withdrawal.
During a wide ranging press conference in Paris earlier on Saturday, U.S. Defense Secretary Mark Esper sought to allay fears that

Washington was looking for a quick exit from Afghanistan as it inches closer to a potential deal with the Taliban.
“My view, the U.S. view is that the best way forward is a political agreement and that's what we're working diligently on right now,” Mr. Esper told reporters.
“That doesn't mean we'll take any deal, but we want to make sure we have a good deal, a good enough deal that guarantees at least the

security of our countries going forward and a brighter future for the Afghan people.”
Multiple attacks
The remarks were greeted warmly in Afghanistan where the Taliban in the past week has attacked several provincial capitals and targeted Kabul with suicide bombers. “The Afghan Government welcomes the latest remarks made by the

Pentagon Chief on Afg peace process,” presidential spokesman Sediq Sediqqi wrote on Twitter. “We echo the need for sustainable peace, end of violence and a meaningful peace that would guarantee the security of Afghanistan and its allies.”
Kabul has been gripped by a surge in deadly violence even after the U.S. and the insurgents reached an agreement “in principle” that would see the U.S. pull thou-

sands of troops from Afghanistan in return for various Taliban security promises.
According to parts of the deal made public so far, the Pentagon would pull about 5,000 of its roughly 13,000 or so troops from five bases across Afghanistan by early next year. The insurgents in turn will renounce al-Qaeda, promise to fight the Islamic State (IS) group and stop jihadists using Afghanistan as a safe haven.

Hong Kong police foil airport protest

Authorities allow only airline passengers to avoid the chaos of last weekend

REUTERS
HONG KONG

Hong Kong police prevented protesters from blocking access to the airport on Saturday, but fired tear gas for a second night running in the city's densely populated district of Mong Kok in the 14th week of unrest.
Police checked for tickets and passports to allow only airline passengers through to the airport to avoid the chaos of last weekend, when activists blocked approach roads, threw debris on to train tracks and trashed the MTR subway station in the nearby new town of Tung Chung. Protesters also occupied the arrivals hall last month, halting and delaying flights, amid a series of clashes with police.
As night fell on Saturday,



3 months and running: A protester running during a clash with police in Hong Kong on Saturday. • GETTY IMAGES

there were some cat-and-mouse stand-offs between protesters and police in Tung Chung, but no sign of renewed violence.
On Friday night, hundreds of demonstrators, many masked and dressed in black, attacked MTR metro stations in the Mong Kok dis-

trict, targeted because of televised scenes of police beating protesters on a metro train on Aug. 31 as they cowered on the floor.
Activists, angry that the MTR closed stations to stop protesters from gathering and demanding CCTV footage of the beatings, tore down signs, broke turnstiles, set fires on the street and drew graffiti on walls.
Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam announced concessions this week aimed at ending the protests, including formally scrapping a hugely unpopular extradition Bill, but many said the concessions were too little, too late. She said Beijing backed her “all the way”. But the demonstrations, which began in June, have long since broadened into calls for more democracy and many protesters have pledged to fight on.
Hong Kong returned to China in 1997 under a “one country, two systems” formula that guarantees freedoms not enjoyed on the mainland. Many Hong Kong residents fear Beijing is eroding that autonomy.

Death of ‘Comrade Mugabe’ attracts mixed reaction

Zimbabwe ruling party mouthpiece offers a glowing tribute but other newspapers are fiercely critical

ASSOCIATED PRESS

No date for the funeral has been set, and it's not clear when Mugabe's body will arrive from Singapore, where he died on Friday. Mugabe, who was 95, will be buried at the National Heroes Acre, which has been set aside for Zimbabweans who have made huge sacrifices during the war against white-minority rule and who dedicated themselves to the nation.
“We don't have the date yet,” Deputy Information Minister Energy Mutodi said. “That is still in the hands of the family and the President, but comrade Mugabe will be buried at the Heroes Acre.”

A national hero

Located on a hilltop, the plot features a huge bronze statue of three guerrilla fighters and boasts black marble and granite flourishes. Mugabe is viewed by many as a national hero despite decades of rule that left the country struggling.



Liberator, leader, despot: Children milling around a wall with a mural of Robert Mugabe in Harare on Saturday. • GETTY IMAGES

gling. Flags flew at half-staff Saturday, but there were no public activities to mark the death of a man who singularly shaped the once-prosperous country in his own image and created a repressive system that some say remains even today.
Reaction to his death was mixed, although praise ironically came mostly from ruling party officials and mili-

tary leaders. The state-run *Herald* newspaper, which vilified Mugabe when he was forced to resign and when he subsequently voiced support for the Opposition, carried glowing tributes. In a “commemorative edition,” the paper, which often acts as a mouthpiece of the government, carried a montage of his pictures with the headline – “Robert Mu-

gabe-1924-2019” on its front page and glowing reports throughout.
“Whatever happened towards the end of his leadership should not be used to rubbish the good things that he did during his life,” the commander of the Zimbabwe Defense Forces was quoted as saying in a separate story in the newspaper.

‘95 and out’

Others were less charitable. “95 and out,” read the privately-owned *Newsday* newspaper. “Despite his intellectual prowess, Mugabe's failure to let go of power when it was time was his major undoing. In short, he was a liberator who turned villain. Leaders need to know when to draw the line,” it said in an editorial.
“End of an era as Mugabe dies, leaves Zim poor, divided,” read the front page headline of another newspaper, the *Daily News*. “Notwithstanding the many mistakes that he made, many Zimbab-

weans will probably agree that had he not held on to power beyond the 1990s, he would today be largely remembered as one of Africa's best leaders in history,” the paper said in an editorial.
Both newspapers were major targets of Mugabe's vitriol, with editors and reporters routinely arrested during Mugabe's rule.
On the streets of the capital, Harare, few seemed bothered as people struggled to cope with biting economic problems largely blamed by critics on Mugabe's rule and perpetuated by his successor and an ally who later turned foe, President Emmerson Mnangagwa. Mnangagwa took power in 2017 with the help of the military.
“Who cares?” said Percy Maute, a street vendor pushing a cart full of tomatoes along a busy street named after the former President. “I don't care. I am too busy looking for money to mourn a man who put me in this position.”

Indian couple killed in U.S. boat accident

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LOS ANGELES

A U.S.-born Indian couple and an Indian-origin scientist were among the 34 people who died from smoke inhalation when they were trapped on a boat packed with scuba divers that caught fire and sank off the California coast, according to media reports.
On Monday, a massive fire broke out on the 75-foot charter boat when the passengers were sleeping below the deck.
The couple, Kaustubh Nirmal and Sanjeevi Deopujari, lived in Connecticut and were among the people who died aboard the vessel, during a three-day diving excursion.
Indian-origin scientist Sunil Singh Sandhu was also there on a dive vessel that sank off Santa Barbara in California. The massive fire was reported to be one of California's worst maritime disasters in decades.



Behrouz Kamalvandi, spokesman for Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation. • AFP

ing only first generation – or IR-1 – centrifuges. Iran also said on Saturday that it was capable of enriching uranium beyond 20% but for now it had no plans to do so. “Our plan is that if the other parties act on their commitments, we too return to our commitments,” said Mr. Kamalvandi.
Despite the decision to further step back from the 2015 deal, Mr. Kamalvandi said Iran would allow the International Atomic Energy Agency to continue monitoring its nuclear programme, as it has done under the 2015 accord.

Iran breaches deal, fires up advanced centrifuges

Move will help it increase n-stockpile

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TEHRAN

Iran said on Saturday that it has fired up advanced centrifuges to boost its enriched uranium stockpiles, in the latest scaling back of commitments under a crumbling 2015 nuclear deal.
The Islamic republic was acting on a threat to further abandon its nuclear commitments based on a deadline it set for European powers to do something to shield it from U.S. sanctions.
The country's Atomic Energy Organisation spokesman Behrouz Kamalvandi said it had activated 20 IR-4 and 20 IR-6 advanced centrifuges. “The centrifuge machines, as they are engaged in research and development, will help with increasing the stockpile,” he said. “The capacity of these machines is many times more than the previous machines. This started as of yesterday (Friday),” he said.
Under the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), Iran was allowed to enrich uranium us-

Zomato lays off 541 direct employees

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Zomato has laid off 541 direct employees, mostly from its headquarters in the Delhi NCR working in the support services department. With this, the food aggregator has cut its workforce by 10%.

A Zomato spokesperson said: “Over the last few months, our technology products and platforms have improved significantly. While the business has grown consistently, this has led to an overall reduction in direct order-related support queries.

“We have dramatically improved the speed of service resolution, so that now only 7.5% of our orders need support [down from 15% in March].”

IDFC Sec. to advise Coffee Day on strategy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Cafe chain operator Coffee Day Enterprises (CDE) on Saturday announced the appointment of IDFC Securities as an adviser to identify strategic options and advise it on refinancing of existing debt.

“The company, in its meeting of the executive committee, has appointed IDFC securities as the adviser of company and its subsidiaries for identifying the strategic options for Coffee Day Enterprises Ltd., including divestment of its holding in Coffee Day Global Ltd. and any other group company (other than SICAL Logistics Ltd.),” Coffee Day Enterprises said in a regulatory filing.

INTERVIEW | NISHA BISWAL

‘India, U.S. trade problems solvable’

We have a fairly manageable basket of issues: UIBC chief

SUHASINI HAIDAR

More than two months after Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Donald Trump announced in Osaka that U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal should meet and resolve the trade impasse, there has been no meeting thus far, but U.S.-India Business Council (UIBC) president Nisha Biswal says she is hopeful they will meet before Mr. Modi travels to the U.S. this month. Excerpts:

Why have the trade representatives not been able to meet despite the leaders’ decisions during two separate meetings in the last three months?

■ I think it is a really busy time for the United States on the trade front. We are also in the midst of an intense set of back-and-forths with China; you have the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement before the Congress.

What has prevented the trade representatives (TRs) from getting together is a matter of aligning schedules.

My understanding is both leaders have expressed a strong commitment to have the TRs to meet before PM Modi’s visit to the U.S. (September 21-28); I am hopeful that will still happen.

Once they meet, what are the concessions both sides must give in order to break the ice?

■ I think the ‘landing zones’ will be the things that American industry has identified, including concerns on tariffs on ICT, price controls on medical devices, things that the USTR has identified like market access to agricultural products, as well as issues the Indian side has highlighted, including the Section 232 tariffs (tariffs on steel and aluminum), the withdrawal of India’s GSP status, etc. I don’t think that it is that

Merged PSBs must cut stake in insurers

However, public sector lenders may wait for initial share offerings to get better valuation

MANOJIT SAHA
MUMBAI

After the merger of 10 public sector banks (PSBs) into four, two of them will hold over 15% stake in two different insurance companies, individually.

According to insurance regulations, a bank cannot hold more than 15% stake in more than one insurance company.

“Having more than 15% stake in an insurance company gives the status of the promoter to the entity. One entity cannot be a promoter of two insurance companies,” a senior insurance industry official said. “So, the banks have to completely exit one insurance company or cut stake to 15%,” the official added. Two sets of merger-bound PSBs will hold stakes



Rider for merger: Banks must get IRDAI's nod to hold over 15% stake in two insurers till the IPO. ■ GETTYIMAGES/ISTOCK

in two different insurance companies, post the merger. One is Punjab National-Oriental Bank of Commerce-United Bank of India combine and another is the Union Bank-Andhra Bank-Corporation Bank combine.

In the first combine both PNB and OBC hold stakes in two different insurers. PNB

has a 30% stake in PNB Met-life Life India Insurance Company while OBC holds 23% in Canara-HSBC-OBC Life Insurance. So, the merged entity – PNB – will hold over 15% stakes in both the companies.

In the second combine, Union Bank holds 25% stake in Star Union Dai-Ichi Life In-

surance Company while Andhra Bank holds 30% stake in India-First Life Insurance Company. So, the merged entity – Union Bank – will have more than 15% in both the life insurers.

However, bank officials said they were not in a hurry to cut stake as that could impact valuations. Banks would wait for an initial public offering (IPO) to offload stakes.

“We are not in a hurry to sell stake. After the merger, when there is an IPO of one of the companies, we will reduce stake,” said a top official from one of the merger-bound banks.

Banks will have to get the permission of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) – the insurance regula-

tor – for holding over 15% stake in two insurers for a while, that is, till the IPO. Bank mergers are expected to be completed by March 2020 and it is unlikely insurers would like to hit the capital markets, especially when the markets are choppy.

Interestingly, PNB Metlife was planning an IPO last year but postponed its plans due to market conditions.

OBC had also been planning to divest stake in Canara-HSBC-OBC Life Insurance last year but the plan was shelved.

IDBI Bank, in which LIC has a majority stake, also has an insurance arm in IDBI-Federal Life Insurance in which it holds 48% stake.

The bank has now started the process of exiting the life insurance company.



To achieve \$5 trillion in GDP by FY25, India needs to spend \$1.4 trillion on infrastructure. ■ ARUNANGSU ROY CHOWDHURY

Panel set up to identify infra projects for ₹100 lakh-crore investment

Report for FY20 to be given by Oct. 31

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The government on Saturday said it had constituted a high-level task force to identify infrastructure projects for ₹100 lakh-crore worth investment to be made by 2024-25 as India aims to become a \$5-trillion economy.

The task force, headed by the Economic Affairs Secretary, will draw up a ‘national infrastructure pipeline’ of ₹100 lakh-crore, the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

This would include greenfield and brownfield projects costing above ₹100 crore each.

The task force will comprise secretaries from different Ministries, senior officials and the NITI Aayog CEO. It will identify technically feasible and financially/economically viable infrastructure projects that can be initiated in 2019-20.

Further, it has been asked to list the projects that can be included in the pipeline for each of the remaining five years between FY21 and FY25.

The task force, constitut-

ed by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, will submit its report on the pipeline for 2019-20 by October 31, 2019 and on the indicative pipeline for 2021-25 by December-end, the Ministry said.

To achieve the target of scaling India’s GDP to \$5 trillion by 2024-25, the country needs to spend about \$1.4 trillion (₹100 lakh crore) from the fiscal 2019-20 to 2024-25 on infrastructure, it added.

In the past decade (fiscal 2008-17), India invested about \$1.1 trillion in infrastructure.

Boosting investments

The challenge is to step up annual infrastructure investment so that lack of infrastructure does not become a binding constraint on the growth of the Indian economy, the Ministry said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his Independence Day speech, had said that ₹100 lakh crore would be invested in infrastructure over the next five years.

These will include social and economic infrastructure projects.

Demand environment to remain volatile, says Tata Motors’ MD

‘Buyers confused, need help to take informed decisions’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

In the backdrop of the current economic slowdown severely hurting the auto industry, among others, Tata Motors CEO and managing director Guenter Butschek has said that the demand environment would remain volatile for some more time.

“Today’s situation is far more complex,” Mr. Butschek told auto component makers at the Auto Component Manufacturers Association of India’s annual general meeting held in Delhi.



Guenter Butschek

‘About to collapse’

“The Indian opportunity is about to collapse due to low economic activity, leading to

subdued demand, initially triggered by the liquidity crisis and the increased axle load regulation,” he said. “Customers are confused and need education to take informed decisions. We need to take these challenges as opportunities and ex-

plore feasible options for us/ the industry, because that is the need of the hour,” he added.

He said the company’s standard operating processes had to drive supply chain efficiencies and with the use of ‘analytics and Industry 4.0’, the company ought to target higher productivity, efficiency and effectiveness in operations across the entire value chain.

“We have to be careful, to protect our future investments. The winners would be the ones who are able to leverage investments in platform developments by enabling modularity and higher economies of scale,” the Tata Motors MD said.

‘By 2030, CVs will be out and tech will play matchmaker’

Technologies will connect ‘right job to right person’, shows Dell-IFTF study

MINI TEJASWI
BENGALURU

By the year 2030, CVs (curriculum vitae) will be passe, as there will be numerous apps and tools capable of match-making for jobs.

Recent advances in deep-tech learning are making it possible for powerful algorithms to identify skills and capabilities that are not explicitly described on a res-

ume. That means technologies that are emerging today already make it possible to more aptly match the right work to the right person regardless of their gender, age or geographic location.

A recent study by Dell Technologies, in partnership with the California-based, Institute for the Future (IFFT), explored how collaborative artificial intelligence, multi-

modal interfaces, extended reality, and secure distributed ledgers would intersect with evolving social and economic forces to shape how we prepare for, find jobs and

work in 2030. New software systems can help create a richer picture of an applicant by extrapolating relevant skills related to their hobbies and experience, and through applying contextual information about how other workers from the same educational institution or learning pathway have fared in the position, the study said.

Advancements in technol-

ogy will require new skills and capabilities for workers to excel in the 2030 work environment. The changes to work and learning in the next 10 years would be enabled by the maturation and proliferation of today’s emerging technologies, which would give birth to new industries, jobs, skills, places of work and working patterns, the study said.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS TIRUPATI

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-tenders are invited for procurement of Annual Requirement of Miscellaneous Materials to TTD Press,Tirupati. The intending participants may participate in e-tender by log-in to www.aaprocurement.gov.in, in secure mode only by signing with Digital Certificate OR by downloading the Bid Document from TTD website www.tirumala.org. Contact for further details: 0877-2264292

Roc.No. PR/1 13910/Adv.No.237/ PRQ/2019, Dated: 07.09.2019 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

अखिल भारतीय अयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, रायपुर (छ.ग.)
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Raipur (C.G.)
Tatibandh, G.E. Road, Raipur - 492 099 (CG), www.aiimsraipur.edu.in

No. AIIMS-RPR/Rect. & Advt. Cell/2019/1887, Date: 06.09.2019
Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Raipur Chhattisgarh, Gol, invites e-tender for following:

E-TENDER CALL NOTICE

Tender Title	EMD Cost	Published on CPPP/Website	Pre-bid Meeting Date	Closing Date
ENT Treatment Unit at AIIMS Raipur	Rs. 3,00,000/-	05.09.2019	18.09.2019 at 05:00 PM	07.10.2019 at 03:00 PM

The details terms & conditions are available on the website - www.aiimsraipur.edu.in and CPP Portal www.eprocure.gov.in
Stores Officer, AIIMS Raipur

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAKSHADWEEP ADMINISTRATION
(Department of Environment & Forest)
Kavaratti Island - 682555, E-mail: lak-dcf@nic.in and lk-efpolicy@nic.in Ph: 04896 262598

F.No. एफ नं | 110/22/2019-ईं एफ (P & L) Dated: 04.09.2019

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Department of Environment & Forest, UT of Lakshadweep Administration Kavaratti invites competitive E-Tender from the Original Licensed Manufacturers or their Authorized Distributors /Agents for the following work as detailed below.

Name of Work : Supply, installation, commissioning, including civil work, providing 3 years comprehensive warranty and providing 5 years CAMC after expiry of warranty period for the 12 numbers of incinerators in the different islands of UT/LA.

Tender Fee/ Cost of Tender Form : Rs.2500

Issue of Tender/Bid Document available for downloading from : 05.09.2019, 10AM

Last date & Time for submission of Bid : 02.10.2019, 3PM

Opening of Technical Bid : 03.10.2019, 11AM

Opening of Financial Bid : 04.10.2019, 11AM

Tender Document containing detailed terms & conditions and goods required can be downloaded from the website www.lakshadweep.gov.in. Bidders willing to participate in the tender shall visit the tender website www.tendersutt.gov.in for participation.

For any help/ query, please contact representative of the Department through email lak-dcf@nic.in and lk-efpolicy@nic.in or Telephone 04896262598 and for any help in processing of e-tender please contact E-Tender helpdesk email saki219@gmail.com or Mobile: +919447510207.

Sd/- (O.P. Mishra, DANICS)
CONSERVATOR OF FOREST

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Central Offices, Stores and Purchase Dept, K.H. Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru - 560 027. Tele No. 080-22221321 Ext: 224 Fax No: 080-22223424

NOTICE INVITING TENDER NO. 06 DATED: 07.09.2019

Tenders (Pre-qualification and / or commercial offers) through e-procurement portal (<http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>) are invited for the procurement of following:

Tender No.	Nomenclature	Tender value in Lakhs Rs. (Approx.)	Last date for submission of tender @ 17.00 hrs.
G-29/19-20	Procurement of PS Plates, Blankets & chemicals to KST Press	6.00	22.10.2019
G-35/19-20	Procurement of Driver Alert System / collision Avoidance System	250.00	19.11.2019
G-36/19-20	Procurement of Computer consumables, Cartridges Etc	20.00	22.10.2019
A-17/19-20	Procurement of Auto Electrical Items	925.00	19.11.2019
SHORT TERM TENDER			
G-28/19-20	Procurement of Engine Coolant	600.00	15.10.2019
G-30/19-20	Procurement of Enamel Paints	350.00	18.10.2019
G-31/19-20	Procurement of Hand Metal Detector	48.00	04.10.2019
G-32/19-20	Procurement of Plate Exposing Machine & Collator Machines	2.00	04.10.2019
G-33/19-20	Procurement of Thermal Paper Rolls for ETM Machines	900.00	18.10.2019
G-34/19-20	Procurement of Automotive Lubricants	1500.00	15.10.2019
A-12/19-20	Procurement of NRC Chassis Spares	300.00	18.10.2019
A-13/19-20	Procurement of Thin walled bearings	75.00	04.10.2019
A-14/19-20	Procurement of Exhaust Pipes & Silencer Muffler	70.00	04.10.2019
A-15/19-20	Procurement of King Pin and Components	600.00	15.10.2019
A-16/19-20	Procurement of Spring Leaves	1200.00	15.10.2019

► The due date for the submission of Tender No: G-20/19-20 for the Procurement of Telecom Services to KSRTC, NWKRTC, NEKRTC & BMTC is **extended to 27.09.2019 @ 17.00 hrs.**

Further any addendum / corrigendum in respect of change in calendar of events, specification, scope, other tender terms and conditions etc., will be uploaded / published through e-portal only.

NOTE: Interested suppliers need to register in the e-Procurement portal. For further information, log into <http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> In case of further assistance, contact e-procurement cell (Phone No. 080-23010900, 080-23010901). Interested suppliers may also contact e-Procurement Cell for training on bid submission. Mail to eprocurementhelpdesk@gmail.com for further information if required.

Sd/-
CONTROLLER OF STORES AND PURCHASES
(Tender Inviting Authority)

DIPR/DDU/1168/2019-20



Is a U.S.-India FTA likely?

■ I think to say it is likely overstating the case, but it is imperative for both countries to move in that direction for U.S.-India trade to get to where we want it.



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Beyond gender binaries

What needs to be done to implement the Tamil Nadu government order banning sex normalisation surgeries on intersex children and infants?

RAMYA KANNAN

The story so far: A short while before the first anniversary of the verdict that invalidated Section 377 (September 6, 2018) to jubilant celebrations among the LGBTQI community, in a nondescript courtroom in Madurai at the Bench of the Madras High Court, equally significant history was written. In April this year, Justice G.R. Swaminathan, did a deep dive into the complex and nuanced question of gender identity and sex, to emerge with a judgment that turned the ingrained ideas of gender or sex as a binary – male and female – on its head. He expanded the scope of a petition filed by a transwoman and her husband, making a plea to instruct authorities to register their marriage. While allowing this plea, the judge went on to ban sex reassignment surgeries on intersex infants and children, directing the government to file a compliance report. The Tamil Nadu government passed an order on August 13 banning sex normalisation surgeries in intersex children and infants, except in life threatening circumstances.

What does intersex mean?

Intersex refers to people born with physical and biological characteristics that are more diverse than stereotypical definitions of male or female bodies. Gopi Shankar, a Madurai-based activist/anchor of the student movement Srishti Madurai, whose petition to the National Human Rights Commission on the subject the court leaned heavily on, says there are differences between gender, sexual identity and sexual orientation. While gender identity is assigned at birth based on the anatomy (male or female sexual organs, both internal and external), sexual identity is what one sees oneself as, and sexual orientation is the sex a person is attracted to. Mr. Gopi claims that every year there are 10,000 babies born with intersex conditions, when it is difficult to

The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, while banning sex reassignment surgeries on intersex infants and children except in life-threatening circumstances, also observed that the consent of the parent cannot be considered the consent of the child

classify the reproductive organs as male or female. Genetically, the male is invested with XY chromosomes and the female, XX. In intersex there are at least 40 different variations. But this is key: there is no one intersex experience. A senior medical geneticist from Hyderabad, Anuradha Udumudi, who was consulted while framing the government order, explains that sexual development is a complex process.

In the last decade with huge leaps in the field of

medical genetics, it is now apparent to scientists that gender assignment is not merely the function of the X and Y chromosomes. She says hundreds of genes have been identified, mutations or changes in them lead to a 'different kind of development', impacting the gender of the foetus. There are several metabolic developments involved in these pathways. Significantly, not all of these differences can be detected at the time of birth. Doctors and parents only have their radar up when the baby exhibits ambiguities in gross anatomical features, for instance, the presence of both male and female genitalia, or two different genders for internal and external reproductive organs.

Why are sex selective surgeries performed on infants?

When these differences are apparent at birth, parents are eager to resolve the question of the gender of the baby and pick a gender, possibly ignorant of the fact that the child will have to pick a sexual identity in the process of growing up. Surgery to correct the genitalia is then performed on the child which could lead to physical trauma, emotional turmoil and problems arising out of confusion about identity.

The court observed that the consent of the parent cannot be considered the consent of the child. The government order specifies that such surgeries can only be performed in case there is a life-threatening situation. It adds that this call would be made by a team that includes paediatric surgeons/urologists, endocrinologists, a social worker/intersex activist and a government representative.

What happens next?

Tamil Nadu's order comes as the second such move made by any State on gender and sexual identity; the Parliament of the island of Malta adopted the Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics Act in April 2015. There is no room for complacency, though. If the proof of the pudding is in the eating, the mark of the State's commitment to its intersex babies would be in how well the order is implemented.

Dr. Udumudi says, a great deal of awareness is necessary even for the medical community to recognise the possibilities of gender ambiguity. Parents will have to be counselled well into accepting their children as they are. Mr. Gopi adds, "Readymade answers are not available, parents do need to wait. Give your baby space, allow gender identity to be fluid, if it is indeed so, and let them choose." After all, the binaries are not everything.

How will mergers affect public banks?

What does the rearrangement mean for the banking sector? Is increased credit growth essential for India to achieve the target of becoming a \$5-trillion economy?

PRASHANTH PERUMAL J.

The story so far: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman recently announced that 10 banks owned by the Government of India will be merged into four larger banks; thus the total number of state-owned banks in the country will have come down from 27 (in 2017) to 12. According to the plan outlined by the government at a press meet late last month, Punjab National Bank will be merged with Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank of India; Canara Bank with Syndicate Bank; Union Bank of India with Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank; while Indian Bank will amalgamate with Allahabad Bank. The government also announced an infusion of ₹55,250 crore to help these newly merged banks extend more loans to their customers and meet crucial regulatory norms. Just last year, the government proposed the merger of three banks – Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank with Bank of Baroda – to create a larger bank. Earlier in 2017, State Bank of India, the country's largest lender, was merged with five of its associate banks.

What is a merger and why are so many state-owned banks being consolidated?

A merger is simply the combining of two business entities to form a larger one but with no explicit change in ownership. This is in contrast to an acquisition where one business entity takes ownership control over another by paying for the ownership privilege in cash, stock, or other means. In the case of state-owned banks that are being merged now, where the government is the majority shareholder, there will be no change in ownership but merely a restructuring of how these banks are organised.

There are various reasons cited by the government for its decision to merge state-owned banks. One of them is that large banks will be able to lend more money and help revive the slowing economy. The government also believes that increased credit growth is essential in order to achieve its target of growing India into a \$5-trillion economy in the next few years. It is also of the view that the merger will lead to increased operational efficiency that will help these banks lower their costs, thus enabling them to lower their lending rates.

State-owned banks have been reeling under a bad loan crisis for years now. According to the government, the size of gross non-performing assets of state-owned banks stood at ₹7.9 lakh crore, as of March 31, 2019. Although the government has not projected the present merger as a measure to tackle bad loans, bank mergers in the past have been carried out simply to bail out struggling banks.

Will the move help make banks stronger?

The banks that have been merged by the government exhibit varying financial strength. Banks such as Indian Bank and Punjab National Bank are stronger than the



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

smaller banks that they are being merged with under the plan. Indian Bank, which is considered to be the strongest financially among the 10 banks, for instance, has a net NPA ratio of 3.8%; it is 5.2% for Allahabad Bank. So the merger is expected to adversely affect the health of Indian Bank. Not surprisingly, the shares of Indian Bank and other relatively strong banks witnessed a steep fall on the first day of trading (Tuesday) after the announcement of the merger (Friday). It remains to be

The public banks that have been merged by the government exhibit varying financial strength. The merging of healthy banks with weak banks may not really improve the health of the banking system as a whole

seen whether the operational benefits that the government believes will come about through the merger will compensate for the deterioration in the financials of the stronger banks.

But if the reaction of investors on Tuesday is anything to go by, it seems quite unlikely that the merger of state-owned banks will create any significant value for shareholders. Private

businesses typically merge their operations when they believe that the merged entity will help increase their profits. Critics doubt whether the government has any similar incentive to look for synergies that can boost the profits of its banks. Interestingly, Ms. Sitharaman has assured banks that jobs will not be lost due to the merger. Many see this as a compromise to avoid any trouble from powerful bank employee unions. Given this, it seems

What is ration card portability?

How will the 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme be carried out? What are the challenges?

PRISCILLA JEBARAJ

The story so far: The Bharatiya Janata Party government is showcasing the rollout of the 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme as one of the biggest achievements of its first 100 days in power. The launch of the nationwide food security net is scheduled for June 2020, but several challenges remain before migrants can take advantage of full portability.

What is the scheme about?

India runs the world's largest food security programme, distributing more than 600 lakh tonnes of subsidised food grain to more than 81 crore beneficiaries every year. This is done through a vast network of more than five lakh ration or fair price shops. Under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), each beneficiary is eligible for five kg of subsidised grains per month at the rate of ₹3/kg for rice, ₹2/kg for wheat and ₹1/kg of coarse cereals.

However, until recently, this has been a location-linked benefit, leaving crores of migrant workers and families out of the food safety net. Each household's ration card is linked to a specific fair price shop and can only be used to buy rations in that particular shop. Over the last few years, 10 States (partially in one) have implemented the Integrated Management of Public Distribution System, which allows beneficiaries to buy rations from any fair price shop within that State.

The Centre is now in the process of expanding these efforts into a nationwide portability network which is called the 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme. It is scheduled to come into full effect by June 2020, after which a ration card holder can buy subsidised grain at any fair price shop in the country.

What are the benefits? Who will gain the most?

The main beneficiaries of the scheme are the country's migrant workers. According to data from the Census 2011, there are more than 45 crore internal migrants in India, of whom more than half have not completed primary education, while 80% have not completed secondary education. Lower levels of education are linked to lower income, which would make a large percentage of these migrants eligible for NFSA benefits. Registering for ration cards at their new location is an arduous process, especially if some members of the household still remain in their original home. Apart from this, field studies estimate that four crore to ten crore people are short-term migrants, often working in cities, but not moving there permanently. Women who change locations after marriage also find it difficult to start accessing ration benefits using a new household's card.

The Centre hopes that allowing ration card portability will also curb corruption and improve access and service quality by removing monopolies. Under the old system, beneficiaries were dependent on a single fair price shop and subject to the whims of its dealer. Under the new system, if they are denied service or face corruption or poor quality in one shop, they are free to head to a different shop.

The scheme is also driving the faster implementation of initiatives to digitise and integrate the food storage and public distribution system.

What is needed to make it work?

The scheme involves the creation of a central repository



FILE PHOTO/AFP/ROBERTO SCHMIDT

of NFSA beneficiaries and ration cards, which will integrate the existing databases maintained by States, Union Territories and the Centre. Aadhaar seeding is also important as the unique biometric ID will be used to authenticate and track the usage of ration by beneficiaries anywhere in the country. Currently, it is estimated that around 85% of ration cards are linked to Aadhaar numbers.

For the scheme to work, it is critical that all fair price shops are equipped with electronic point-of-sale machines (ePoS), replacing the old method of manual record-keeping of transactions with a digital real-time record. On the back-end, the Food Corporation of India's Depot Online System is integrating all warehouses and godowns storing subsidised grain in an attempt to create a seamless flow of online information from procurement until distribution.

What is the progress so far?

Two pairs of States – Andhra Pradesh-Telangana and Maharashtra-Gujarat – became the first to begin implementing portability between their States last month. From October 1, two more pairs – Kerala-Karnataka and Rajasthan-Haryana – will join the experiment. By January, all eight States and at least three others which already implement intra-State portability will form the first national grid for the 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme.

What are the difficulties ahead?

There are only 4.32 lakh ePoS machines which have been installed in more than 5.3 lakh fair price shops. Apart from much of Northeast India, much of that gap comes from three States: Bihar, West Bengal and Uttarakhand. Given that they are major source States for migrants, Bihar (only 15% coverage) and West Bengal (70% coverage) must speed up ePoS installation for the system to work smoothly. In some rural and remote areas, ePoS connectivity also remains erratic, jeopardising smooth functioning.

In Jharkhand, a State which was an early adopter of digitisation and Aadhaar-based biometric authentication in 2016, there have been widespread complaints of denial

unlikely that state-owned banks will be able to become more efficient after the merger by getting rid of redundant labour. More importantly, the merging of healthy banks with weak banks may not really improve the health of the banking system as a whole. In fact, many believe, by diluting the management of strong banks, forced mergers may lead to a significant deterioration in the overall health of the banking system. Last but not least, if the managers of efficient banks are punished for their good performance by being asked to share the burden of weaker banks, many fear that there will be fewer incentives for managers to manage well. This can further negatively affect the long-term performance of state-owned banks.

Will it address the bad loans crisis and help kick-start economic growth?

The merger of banks per se will not lead to a decrease in the absolute size of bad loans in their books. The size of bad loans in bank books can drop only if banks manage to improve the recovery of these loans, or if these loans are written off their balance sheets. The bad loan recovery process remains slow due to the inefficient judicial system in the country and banks have been unwilling to aggressively write off bad loans since that would require recognising greater losses. Mergers do not address these serious structural problems.

The present merger, many believe, also does not address the issue of political interference in the management of state-owned banks that is at the root of the bad loan crisis. The stated purpose of the nationalisation of banks in 1969 was to use bank credit to fund the various development goals of the government. Towards this end, over the years, various state-owned banks have been forced to extend loans under political pressure even though such loans did not always make business sense. This is in contrast to private banks that are allowed to operate simply as pure businesses seeking profits.

In her presentation on Friday, the Finance Minister announced some governance reforms, such as strengthening the power of bank boards, but not many really believe that they will effectively address the fundamental issue of political interference in state-owned banks. Finally, when it comes to funding the growth needs of the economy, large banks may be able to lend more money than smaller banks due to the size of their capital base. Punjab National Bank, for instance, when merged with United Bank of India and Oriental Bank of Commerce will be the second-largest bank in the country carrying out business to the tune of around ₹18 lakh crore. However, some argue that large banks may not really be essential when it comes to funding big-ticket business projects. In the past, several smaller banks have come together to extend large loans. Further, companies themselves might prefer to seek funds from multiple sources. Overall, the infusion of additional capital by the government can temporarily help banks troubled by bad loans to extend loans more confidently without the fear of going bankrupt due to their precarious capital position. But most economic analysts believe that the merger does not really address the root structural causes behind the woes facing state-owned banks in the country.

of food due to system failures. A 2017 study in Ranchi district – which was relatively well-connected – found that 20% to 40% of beneficiaries had been unable to buy their rations. Right to Food activists have blamed at least 20 deaths from September 2017 to June 2019 on hunger caused by irregularities in the PDS system.

In other States, the challenge comes from the difference between ration benefits offered by the State in comparison to the Central entitlement. Tamil Nadu, for example, offers 20 kg of free rice per month to almost 2 crore ration card holders, as well as subsidised sugar, pulses and oil, over and above the NFSA benefits. The

State government has made it clear that it will not be offering these benefits to migrant workers, as the Centre will cover the costs of NFSA benefits only.

Another issue could arise if the members of a single household are split between two different locations. The scheme's guidelines only permit purchase of half the subsidised grain at one time in an effort to prevent one member of the household taking the entire ration for the month, leaving family members in a different location stranded without food.

The biggest challenge may lie in the lack of any concrete data on inter-State migration trends, especially short-term migration. The allocation of food grains to States will have to be dynamic to allow for quick additional delivery to cover any shortfalls in States with large migrant populations. Currently, Food Corporation of India godowns stock grains up to three months in advance. Food Ministry officials acknowledged that there is a "steep learning curve" ahead to ensure that movement of grain matches migration flows.

For the scheme to work, it is critical that all fair price shops are equipped with electronic point-of-sale machines, replacing the old method of manual record-keeping of transactions with a digital real-time record



Lefty genes
A study involving nearly 400,000 people published in *Brain* identifies for the first time regions of the genome associated with left-handedness. This correlated with the fact that brain areas corresponding to language processing in the left and right hemispheres co-ordinated better. This could imply that lefties have an advantage in performing verbal tasks.



AC in its head?
Tyrannosaurus rex, one of the largest meat-eating dinosaurs, may have had an air-conditioner in its head! Two large holes in the roof of *T. rex*'s skull, known as dorso-temporal fenestra, were earlier believed to contain muscles that helped jaw movements. But now, comparing with alligators, researchers have built a theory that it could have been filled with blood vessels that helped maintain body temperature.

IACS fabricates hydrogels with tunable bactericidal activities

The hydrogel reduces the cell size of the *E. coli* and disrupts its cell membrane

R. PRASAD

Researchers at the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IACS) Kolkata have used a using naturally occurring nucleoside molecule cytidine to self-assemble into a hydrogel in the presence of silver acetate and phenyl boronic acid. The hydrogel possessing i-motif DNA-like structure was found to exhibit antibacterial activity against Gram-negative bacterial strains such as *E. coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, and multidrug-resistant *Morganella morganii*.

Non-toxic
While silver is known to have antibacterial property, it may not be used due to its toxicity. But when silver acetate was incorporated in the hydrogel the toxicity was reduced and thus suitable for treating bacterial infections. The hydrogel containing silver acetate was found to be non-toxic to normal kidney epithelial cells and red blood cells.

The research team led by Prof. Jyotirmayee Dash from the School of Chemical Sciences, IACS, found that the silver-containing hydrogel was capable of killing *E. coli*. The hydrogel reduced the cell size of the *E. coli* and

CLRI's biocatalyst cuts effluent discharge during leather processing

There is threefold reduction in water usage and less chromium discharge into the environment

R. PRASAD

A novel amylase-based biocatalyst developed by researchers at the Central Leather Research Institute (CSIR-CLRI), Chennai, helps in processing leather in an environment-friendly way and also drastically cutting the time taken to process the skin at the pre-tanning stage. Pre-tanning process generates 60-70% of total pollution during processing.

Reduced effluents
The quantum of effluent discharge is considerably cut as there is threefold reduction in water usage when the biocatalyst is used. In particular, the amount of chromium that gets absorbed is more leading to less chromium discharge into the environment. Chromium is used for increasing the stability of the collagen through cross-linking. Since no chemicals are used, the chemical oxygen demand drops by about 35% while the total solid effluent load reduces by over 50%.

The reason why less chromium and water are required at the pre-tanning stage when the biocatalyst is used is primarily because of the 120-fold higher binding of the biocatalyst to the glycan sugar (glycosaminoglycan) present predominantly in the skin. Once the catalysts binds to the sugar, it selectively breaks down (hydrolysis) the sugar



In a jiffy: It takes just 10 minutes to open the fibres when the biocatalyst is used compared with traditional enzymes that take three-four hours. ■AP

thus opening up the skin fibre. The results were published in the journal *Green Chemistry*.

Quick hydrolysis
“The binding and hydrolysis happens rapidly. It takes just 10 minutes to open the fibres when the biocatalyst that we engineered is used. Traditionally, enzymes take three-to-four hours to open the fibres. If lime and sulphate are used it takes 12 hours to complete the process,” says Niraikulam Ayyadurai from the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology at CLRI and corres-

ponding author of the paper. Not only is the process of opening the fibres quicker, the biocatalyst also penetrates deep into the skin unlike the traditionally used enzymes. Deep penetration of the biocatalyst has two advantages – it is sufficient to use less amount of chromium to increase the stability of the collagen and the quality of the finished leather also becomes superior. About 21% of the chromium used gets absorbed by the skin, which is far more than when other enzymes or chemical-based methods are used, leading to reduced chromium in the ef-

fluent discharge. The biocatalyst is stable even at a high temperature of 90 degree C and pH 10 and so up to 95% of the enzyme can be recovered after a single process and reused.

Genetic engineering
The normal amylase enzyme has limited efficiency to bind to the substrate leading to reduced ability to open the skin fibre. So the team led by Dr. Ayyadurai resorted to genetic code. “The genetic code engineering allows us to introduce new chemistry in the amylase enzyme thus improving the enzymatic properties,” he says. “The tyrosine amino acid was computationally modified with extra groups such as amino, hydroxyl, fluorine and chlorine. We found the extra hydroxyl group provided more activity towards the skin glycan,” says Suryalakshmi Pandurangan from CLRI and the first author of the paper. “By modifying the tyrosine amino acid we changed the property of amylase enzyme.” The amylase gene was isolated from *Bacillus licheniformis* and made to express in *E. coli*. Large-scale production and even manipulation of the enzyme is possible when the enzyme is expressed by *E. coli*. It also becomes cheaper to produce the enzyme through the fermentation route.

How simple cells organise into varied communities

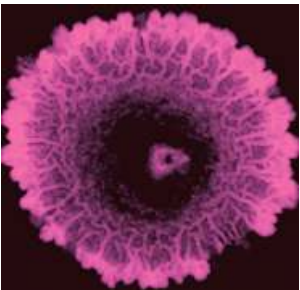
Yeast cells grew into groups with different metabolism, which were spatially organised

SHUBASHREE DESIKAN

Bangalore-based researchers have shown that simple biochemical processes drive single-celled organisms to differentiate and become varied communities of cells having different metabolism. This study can help us understand how multicellularity develops.

The group studied the common baker's yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) to show how multicellularity can emerge in single-celled microbes due to merely biochemical effects. The experiment starts with yeast cells that are similar in all respects – they all produce a sugar (trehalose) from available raw materials. As the colonies mature and the concentration of trehalose increases, some of the cells start using up the sugar, thereby slowly bringing about a balance in the concentration of trehalose. In the process, this results in the development of cells with two different types of metabolism – cells that produce trehalose and those that use up trehalose. These new cells are confined geographically to some areas within the colony. Such characteristics are necessary for the development of multicellularity. The study has been published in the journal *eLife*.

When the colony was allowed to mature, the research-



Variation: Fluorescent reporter genes were present in all cells but only some cells show the colour. The cells show spatial organisation. ■SRIRAM VARAHAN/SUNIL LAXMAN

ers found that the cells with different properties formed into groups across the colony.

Light and dark cells
“We just arbitrarily called these cells 'light' and 'dark' based on how they appeared under a light microscope,” says Sriram Varahan of Institute of Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (inStem), Bengaluru. “Subsequently, with more characterisation, we found that these cells have very different metabolism and properties,” he adds.

The researchers integrated three different approaches. Sunil Laxman of inStem explains: “We used many microscopic approaches to characterise the cells. We also used highly sensitive analytical che-

mistry approaches (mass spectrometry) to identify all the metabolic processes, and show that this new sugar is made, builds up, and then when used by some cells helps them to switch to a new state.”

Mass spectrometry
As the team had small quantities of experimental material, they used mass spectrometry to analyse and differentiate between the different types of cells.

“Our collaborators Dr. Sandeep Krishna and Vaibhava Sinha from National Centre for Biological Sciences made a theoretical model that can predict this entire colony development, using these biochemical processes,” says Dr Laxman.

Many microbes can form biofilms, in which cells with different properties are together in a group. These biofilms play a role in many diseases caused by bacteria and fungi. This study explains how such biofilms can form, suggesting a means to control the growth of biofilms.

The study has thrown open several questions for the team. “We need to figure out how cells put out this sugar; how cells start to break down the trehalose; whether a minimum number of cells is needed for this to happen,” says Dr Laxman.

Controlling tuberculosis by sniffing in a vaccine

Various medications have been tried for the disease, but with little success



SPEAKING OF SCIENCE

D. BALASUBRAMANIAN

The disease tuberculosis (TB) has been with us since around 10,000 years ago, when we humans began living in communities. We in India have known it since ancient times, just as the people in Western Asia have. Sanskrit texts dating back to 1500 BCE knew it and called it *Sosha*. *Sushruta Samhita* (ca. 600 BC) recommended that the disease be treated with breast milk, alcohol and rest. The compendium called *Madhukosa* (ca. 900 AD) described the disease as *Yaksma* or consumption. That the disease is transmitted from person (even animals to humans) through sputum and cough was also known. Various medications were tried with little success. It was in 1882 that the German microbiologist H.H. Robert Koch discovered that the disease is caused by a germ he called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (or Mtb) for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1905. He also attempted to find drugs to treat TB and came out with a product he called tuberculin, though with little success. Since then, drugs against TB have been successfully marketed, e.g., Rifampicin, Isoniazid, Pyrazinamide and the latest ones Pretomanid and Bedaquiline. The Indian government is using most or all of them to treat millions of TB cases every year.

Prevention is better than cure. The field immunology attempts to practice this proverb and tries to stop the invading germs from entering the body and causing disease. Success in producing such a product which can provide immunity against TB came about through the work of two French bacteriologists, Albert Calmette and Camille Guerin during 1908-1921. They came out with the product called Bacillus Calmette-Guerin or BCG. When BCG was injected in the human's body as a vaccine, it provided immunity against the attack of Mtb. The first TB vaccine was thus born and is being used across the world even today on infants (and children below 15), affording them protection against TB. Remarkably, the protection lasts for as long as 20 years, as recent studies have shown. India has been using BCG vaccine with success for decades now.

Breathe in the vaccine

However, it has come to be known that while BCG is good for children, it may not be as effective in adults, who get TB of the lungs (pulmonary) more often, as opposed to in the intestines, bones or the urinary tract. It is also not effective if a person is affected by other diseases (for example, AIDS) and thus immune-compromised. Also, occasionally people react to BCG with some fever and also skin itching at the injection spot, making it uncomfortable to use. There is thus the need for alternative vaccines, which can work by themselves and also act as boosters for BCG. It will also help if these new vaccines are easier delivered in other modes, rather than by injection.

An exciting way to deliver vaccines was initiated almost 50 years ago and involved inhaling it through the nose into the lungs or the pulmonary route of vaccination. It was first tried in England in 1951 on a flock of chicken through aerosol vaccination against a virus. It was later tried with BCG in 1968, in guinea pigs and a few humans. In Mexico, they succeeded in immunising school-children against measles during 1988-1990, and later by others on TB (see review by Contreras, Awasthi, Hanif and Hickey: Inhaled vaccines for the prevention of TB 2012; *Mycobacterial Disease* SI:002. doi: 10.4172/2161-1068 SI-002). It is also worth noting that using this route needs no needles, does not need clinically trained persons, cuts down waste and is lower in cost.

When the pathogenic organism invades the body, it uses a molecule to pierce through and, using the material therein, to multiply and cause havoc. The host (scientists are polite!) body in turn fights back by using its immunity apparatus. The so-called B Cells there synthesise proteins called antibodies which bind with the invader and disable it. Plus, the host stores this mechanism for future, in case the pathogen attacks at a later time. This is the basis behind vaccination, which is good for years.

Actually, the whole germ is not needed for antibody generation. Even a part of the molecule (the “business region” or the epitope) suffices for the generation of antibodies by the B Cells. The immune apparatus has another class, called T cells which work in tandem with B cells. Molecules in T cells help “kill” the invaders. Here again, we do not need the whole molecule, but that part which helps in the process, as “adjuvants” for immune response.

A group at the University of Sydney in Australia has been creatively using these three principles to generate an inhalable vaccine against TB. Their publication appears in the latest issue of *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* (Ashhurst, A, et al., *J Med Chem*. 2019 Aug 16. doi: 10.1021/acs.jmedchem.9b00832.). They chemically synthesised a part of the molecules of T cells as adjuvants on one hand and linked it chemically with the epitope part of Mtb (which too they synthesised in the lab). The so-synthesised product (call it compound I) was then administered through the nose of mice. The mice were then infected with Mtb and, after a few weeks the lungs and spleens of the infected mice tested. The bacterial load was found to be substantially low proving that aerosol administration of I was protective as a vaccine candidate. Also, the inhalation route of administering the vaccine candidate was seen to be better than the injection route. This should make children and nervous adults happy!

dbala@lvpei.org

Get ready for 3D-printed cookies

IIFPT, Thanjavur, scientists have 3D-printed a nutritious snack using millets, green gram, fried gram and ajwain seeds

ASWATHI PACHA

Scientists have used 3D-printing to make automobile parts and prosthetics before but now 3D-printing food is becoming a reality. Researchers from the Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT), Thanjavur, have printed a nutritious snack using millets, green gram, fried gram and ajwain seeds. Taking just five to seven minutes to print, followed by a microwave drying process, this technology may help in customising food according to the individuals' nutritional requirements.

Size of a mixie
“The printer is approximately the size of a mixie, weigh-

ing below 8 kg and can be carried around. It was also indigenously developed and completely fabricated in India. This brings down the cost to less than Rs.75,000, while most printers in the market are expensive and cannot be conveniently used for multi-material food printing applications,” says C. Anandharamakrishnan, Director of IIFPT and corresponding author of the paper published in the *Food and Bioprocess Technology*.

Efficient method
All the raw materials were hot-air dried, ground to fine particles and sieved to about 0.2 mm. Adding salt, spices, distilled water, they are made into a paste and fed



Baked differently: The printed snack is microwave dried for best results.

into the 3D-printer. The flow, temperature, printer nozzle size and printing rate or speed was optimised after several trials. For

further treatment of the printed snack, the researchers tried deep frying, hot air drying and microwave drying and found that the latter

was the most efficient method.

High protein, fibre
The snack was also analysed for its colour, texture and taste. They also found that the snack had high protein and fibre content. “We can customise the nutrient content according to the need of the person. We tried this at a local school where we printed in shapes loved by children so that we can give them high nutrient food,” adds Dr. Anandharamakrishnan.

Earlier this year, the team had earlier made egg yolk and egg white into a printable form and studied its material characteristics, and optimised the printing

conditions. This work was published in the *Journal of Food Engineering*.

Early stages
According to a scientist working in 3D-printing, food printing is in early stages in India, because to print food the dynamics and mechanics need to be fully understood. Though this may not be a solution to any food crisis or help altering the food manufacturing process, it may prepare ourselves for the future, he says. Perhaps one day this method may help print food at the International Space Station or any such environment. Instead of increasing the shelf life, printing food when and where needed can be a better option.

The painful pace of recovery from the Easter bombings

Four months since the attacks. survivors in Negombo are living in trauma, and anger

COLOMBO



Leaning rightward, as if he were weighed down by the helmet in his hand, a middle-aged man stood in front of the board under a neem tree at the St. Sebastian's Church. There were 115 names in all on the board, listed in clear black Sinhala font. They ran into four columns.

“Those who sacrificed their lives for their fate,” read a line on top, running across the board. Right behind was an image of Christ. Last Sunday, the St. Sebastian's Church in Katuwapitiya had many visitors, several from Colombo and some from as far as Kandy. “Earlier we would come here every now and then, but this is the first time I am coming after the bombings. I was ter-

rified,” said Warnakulasooriya Philomena Fernando in fluent Tamil. Like many Negombo residents of her generation, the 76-year-old was comfortably bilingual. “Though my mother tongue is Sinhala, I like speaking in Tamil because that was my medium of learning in school, it comes more naturally to me,” said Ms. Warnakulasooriya. “It’s unbelievable – what has happened here. What were those cruel bombers thinking?” A popular church in Negombo city, located some 40 km north of Colombo and often called “little Rome” for its Catholic flavour, St. Sebastian's comes with history spanning at least a century. But four months ago, its story took a tragic turn when one of the nine Easter Sunday bombers blew up himself on its premises, taking the lives of dozens of people, including those of children. Sunday Mass is now held in a near-

by block, while a team of military men rebuild the main shrine where the blast occurred. The young men stood on scaffoldings, giving finishing touches to the reconstruction work as some people walked in slowly, taking measured steps into the prayer zone, similar to those that had turned fatal for their fellow believers four months ago. Near one of the aisles, the floor bore craters from the bomb explosion covered with sturdy glass, preserved perhaps as an April 21 memory. **Three-pronged programme** “With the guidance of Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith [Archbishop of Colombo], we have devised a three-pronged programme to address social, spiritual and psychological needs of the affected community here,” said Fr. Manjula Niroshan Fernando, who recently moved to the church after his predecessor sought a transfer following the tragedy. “The fear has come down, but the trauma remains,” he said, pulling out



neatly bound files with details of those in need of help. “Some women, whose husbands were killed need a livelihood and some source of income. Some are still in hospital and need financial support for treatment. Some have lost their imme-

diate families and children and need solid psychiatric support to cope with the trauma,” he said. Over 250 people died in the Easter day serial bombings, across three churches and three luxury hotels, that authorities say were carried out by local Islamist radicals. Dozens were injured. A few of those injured at the St. Sebastian's blast are still in hospital, over four months since. At least four persons were paralysed, while one lost her voice. A few children are undergoing treatment for skull injuries, according to church authorities. One woman has started a nursery, while another has begun a boutique with the church's support. Asked if they might be willing to speak, Fr. Fernando said: “No, they have categorically asked me not to send any media to their homes. They are already struggling to cope. Revisiting that episode again and again doesn't help them in any way.” In addition to rebuilding the church, the government is currently

offering some financial and housing support to families of victims, but the people are angry. “They are unable to come to terms with the fact that despite prior intelligence warning, they [the officials] allowed this to happen. And till date, we don't know the truth about how and why,” said another church source, requesting anonymity. The church's outreach includes providing one doctor, one priest, two nuns and a counsellor to every affected family. “It is going to take time,” said Fr. Fernando. There is trauma and then there is anger. “One lady who lost her husband and children was in hospital recently, where she saw a Muslim woman playing with her children. She couldn't bear it, she broke down right there and yelled at her about her own loss. That is the level of hurt, what do you do?” However, the community will not disobey the Cardinal, said the priest, pointing to his repeated calls for calm and restraint. “It's not easy for a victim.”



Meera Srinivasan is The Hindu's Colombo correspondent

Japan's push for 'quality engagement' with Africa

At the Yokohama summit, Tokyo stressed that its investments will be different from China's projects

TOKYO



In late August, the seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) was held in the port city of Yokohama, as Japan stepped up its efforts to counter China's muscle in Africa. The summit emphasised Tokyo's attempt to shift its relationship with the African continent, away from the development assistance that has been its motor in the past to promote a business-led engagement. Tellingly, no target figures for aid were given at the summit, even as Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced that the archipelago's private sector will invest \$20 billion over the next three years in Africa. Moreover, the China-sized ele-

phant in the room meant that considerable effort was expended in explaining how Japan's investments in the continent would differ from its larger neighbour's. Speaking to the press, Masahiko Kiya, Japan's Ambassador for TICAD, claimed that Japanese investments would ensure that countries remained free from debt traps, in addition to being of 'higher quality' and adhering to 'higher standards' – 'higher' than what was not specified, but the implications were understood. Japan's China problem, be it in Africa or the rest of Asia, is that it lacks the heft and size to compete on quantity, hence the refrain of quality. The tactic has had some takers, particularly given the need for many countries to hedge against Beijing's overweening influence. At his opening remarks at TICAD, Mr. Abe gave some examples of



“quality” Japanese engagement, including a small satellite built by Rwanda together with the University of Tokyo that will provide valuable agricultural data. He also mentioned that the new 6,165 km-long undersea cable linking Angola and Brazil had

been laid by Japanese company NEC (Nippon Electric Company). Other recent examples of Japanese private sector involvement in Africa include last year's \$2 million investment by Toyota in Kenyan logistics firm Sendy, as well as Sumitomo Corporation's stake in the Nairobi-headquartered pay-as-you-go solar firm M-Kopa (the amount has not been disclosed). **Huge Chinese presence** Despite the attempted hype, compared to Chinese investments, these remain winnow-like. In September 2018, during China's conference with African leaders in Beijing, Chinese President Xi Jinping pledged \$60 billion in financing. China's trade with Africa totalled \$200 billion in 2018, about 12 times the value of trade between the continent and Japan, which stood at \$17 billion. Between 2000 and 2017, China loaned about \$143 billion to African governments and their state-owned companies, according to figures from the

China-Africa Research Initiative at Johns Hopkins University. It is also funding and building major prestige projects like Kenya's Standard Gauge Railway as well as the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Railway. According to the *Japan Times*, more than 3,700 Chinese firms have an established presence in Africa and about one million Chinese people live on the continent, compared to 800 Japanese firms and 8,000 Japanese people. China's investments have been a geostrategic headline for many years now, but critics have pointed out how small countries like Djibouti may soon sacrifice their sovereignty in return for Chinese money. Nearly 80% of Djibouti's debt is held by China. And it's not very different even in large nations. According to documents obtained by Kenya's *Business Daily* newspaper, China accounts for 72% of Kenya's bilateral debts. When Japan and India issued a statement in September 2017 announcing their intent to develop an

industrial corridor connecting Asia and Africa, dubbed the Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC), it was also tom-tommed as an alternative to unsustainable Chinese debt. In the years since, however, little progress has been made on the project, other than an occasional joint investment, like a recent one to build a cancer hospital in Kenya. In response to a question on the AAGC by *The Hindu*, Mr. Kiya, the TICAD Ambassador, appeared unaware about what the AAGC was. Other analysts in Tokyo said that while cooperation with India in Africa was in principle a good idea, there is no ongoing work on the AAGC, and Japan would like to subsume any cooperation under its Free and Open Indo-Pacific vision. “Japan will endeavour to exercise leadership on African soil through standard setting,” Ambassador Kiya concluded. But regardless of last month's summitry, as matters stand, this declaration is unlikely to give Beijing sleepless nights.



Pallavi Aiya is a journalist based in Tokyo

Trump administration's policy war on immigration

It has set out to make it harder for people to come to the U.S., stay there and become citizens

WASHINGTON



August was a notable month in the annals of U.S. immigration. Several rules were pushed through by an administration that has explicitly and implicitly made no bones about the fact that it is making it harder to come to America, stay in America and become American. This applies to both legal and illegal immigration. The first of these August policy tweaks was aimed at legal immigrants and involved changes to the “public charge” rule. If an individual is seeking admission to the U.S., or looking to change his immigration status and get a green card, he can be deemed inadmissible (or ineligible) as per the law if “at the time of application for admission or adjust-

ment of status, [the person] is likely at any time to become a public charge”. The law has its roots in racist policies from the 1840s and 1850s used to deport and exclude immigrants of various kinds – Irish Catholics, Southern and Eastern Europeans, for instance. In 1882, it was put into the statute books – the same year the U.S. Congress also passed the Chinese Exclusion Act, limiting Chinese immigration into the country. The Trump administration's changes, which will go into effect on October 15, will make it easier to designate potential immigrants as being at risk of depending on state funds and consequently making it easier to deny them green cards. This is being done in several ways, for instance, by increasing the list of benefits that could designate a potential immigrant as likely to become

a public charge. Factors that would weigh against the potential immigrant include not having an annual income of at least 250% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (earlier, it would have normally sufficed for the financial sponsor of a potential immigrant to meet certain income criteria), medical conditions, being old and having poor English language skills. The net effect of this rule is to pressure would-be immigrants to get off benefits they are legally entitled to and also to foster a system that favours wealthier, better-educated, younger immigrants who have better English speaking skills. **Policy tweak** Another rule change in August will make it harder for children born to naturalised U.S. citizens serving in U.S. Embassies or stationed on U.S. military bases abroad to acquire citizenship at birth. While this latter rule is unlikely to impact a large number of children, the policy

tweak is bang on target with the overall message of the administration with regard to immigration. Finally, towards the end of August, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) sent out letters saying that it would no longer handle the “deferred action” programme for non-military cases. The programme enables individuals, many of whom came to the U.S. legally but stayed on after their visas expired, to put off potential deportation. This has included those in the U.S. for the treatment of grave illnesses and life-threatening medical conditions. The USCIS letters said that another agency – the controversial Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) – would handle the programme. No public announcement was made. A *New York Times* report told the story of 24-year-old Maria Isabel Bueso, who has been in the U.S. since she was seven to participate in a clinical trial for a genetic condition



that doctors said would not let her live through adolescence. The woman was among those were told to leave the country within 33 days or face possible deportation proceedings. In Ms. Bueso's case, fending off deportation could mean the diffe-

rence between life and death. USCIS said it had received 1,000 deferred action applications related to medical conditions, as per the *Times*. There could very well be other Buesos out there. Perhaps in response to the bad press it has received, the USCIS, on September 2, released a statement, saying it would deal with all deferred action applications that were pending on August 7. It appears that September is already proving to be busy for the agency and it has only just begun. In a much talked-about interview with NPR's Rachel Martin on the public charge rule, acting USCIS Director Kenneth Cuccinelli was asked if the words etched at the base of the Statue of Liberty, ‘Give me your tired, your poor...’ were still what the American ethos was about. His response was: “They certainly are – give me your tired, your poor who can stand on their own two feet and who will not become a public charge.”



Sriram Lakshman is The Hindu's Washington correspondent

When China wants 'U.S. to return to reason'

Beijing says America's punitive tariffs are 'against the laws' of the market economy

BEIJING



The language used by a Foreign Ministry spokesperson is a barometer of what her government thinks of an issue. Nuance is often the name of the game and spokespersons are appointed to their jobs because they are good at wordplay. So, when this writer had an occasion to attend the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson's press briefing in Beijing, the depths of China's outrage at what is increasingly seen as a trade war with the United States was evident. Accusing the U.S. of “trade bullying practices,” the spokesperson was clear that such tactics would not work on China. He pointed out that U.S. stock markets had declined

sharply and the American actions were “against the laws” of the market economy. And, then came the punch line: “We hope that the U.S. can return to reason.” In 2018, Beijing was Washington's largest goods trading partner with two-way trade totalling \$659.8 billion. “Goods exports totalled \$120.3 billion; imports totalled \$539.5 billion. The U.S. goods trade deficit with China was \$419.2 billion last year. Trade in services with China (exports and imports) totalled an estimated \$77.3 billion in 2018,” a U.S. government website said. **Punitive tariffs** U.S. President Donald Trump imposed a fourth round of tariffs on Chinese goods earlier in September in a bid to encourage the American people to stop buying Chinese



goods. So far, Mr. Trump has imposed tariffs on \$360 billion worth of Chinese goods while counter-tariffs have been imposed by Beijing on \$110 billion worth of U.S. goods. In recent tweets, Mr. Trump approvingly quoted U.S. economist Pe-

ter Morici as saying that enhanced tariffs would not impact American consumers that much. “Importers can find suppliers outside of China. Absolutely worth it, we don't want to be servants to the Chinese! This... is about American Freedom. Redirect the supply chain. There is no reason to buy everything from China!” Mr. Trump tweeted Mr. Morici as saying. U.S.-China trade relations, it would appear, have come full circle. From trying to accommodate China's rise, the U.S. under President Trump is now attempting to cut China to size, or at least making an effort to redraw trade ties with China. It's bizarre that the U.S., at the head of the free world that championed the market economy after the Second World War and led the charge to make free trade acceptable globally, is now turning inwards because the terms of trade with China are not favourable. From Beijing's response, it's clear that a long trade war will hurt China,

but the fact remains that the country has come a long way in being able to deal with challenges that come its way. There's little doubt that the trade war is very much about geopolitics and the targeting of companies like Huawei, which has emerged as a major player in the field of 5G technology, as it is about trade. Clearly aware of the challenges that lie ahead of China, President Xi Jinping last week called for officials to develop a “fighting spirit”. “The struggles we face will not be short term, but long term,” he said last week in Beijing, warning that these challenges could last until 2049, the 100th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The new Chinese Ambassador to India, Sun Weidong, without naming the U.S., made his country's position clear on the issue of trade. Speaking in New Delhi last week, he said: “We resolutely oppose provoking trade frictions... We are willing to properly handle differences on the basis of

mutual respect and resolve issues through dialogue and negotiation.” In the midst of all the friction, Xinhua and Western media outlets reported on August 30 that following a high-level conference call between Chinese and American trade officials, another round of consultations to resolve differences had been set for October. “Chinese and U.S. chief trade negotiators agreed to jointly take concrete actions to create favourable conditions for further consultations in October,” the official Chinese news agency reported. In the past, too, both countries have demonstrated the capacity of pulling back from the brink. But the difference today is the personality of President Trump and his determination to make trade with China a domestic political issue in the U.S. in a bid to secure a second term. The world is watching how these two countries deal with their trade issues. How they do so could well determine the future of global trade relations.



Amit Baruah was recently in China at the invitation of the Chinese Foreign Ministry

Nadal to take nothing for granted as he meets a ‘solid’ Medvedev

The Spaniard, seeking his 19th Grand Slam, runs into the in-form Russian in the summit clash

US OPEN

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
NEW YORK

Rafael Nadal will play for his 19th Grand Slam title, one shy of Roger Federer's all-time men's record, after battling past Italy's Matteo Berrettini on Friday and into his fifth US Open final.

The 33-year-old Spaniard dispatched Berrettini 7-6(6), 6-4, 6-1 at Arthur Ashe Stadium to reach a Sunday showdown against Russian fifth seed Daniil Medvedev, who ousted Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov 7-6(5), 6-4, 6-3.

Nadal, who shook off an early season right hip injury to win a 12th French Open title, seeks his fourth US Open crown – one shy of the Open-era record of five shared by Federer, Pete Sampras and Jimmy Connors – to reach the brink of Federer's mark.

‘Just another chance’
“It’s just another chance on Sunday,” Nadal said. “I want to enjoy a day off, have a good practice and Sunday is the day to play my best.”

Nadal, into his 27th Grand Slam final, beat Medvedev in last month's Montreal final in their only prior meeting. But the World No. 2 skipped Cincinnati, where Medvedev was champion the following week.

“He’s one of the more solid players on tour,” Nadal



Who will rule Flushing Meadows?

When Nadal takes on Medvedev, 10 years his junior, he will hope to pull closer to Roger Federer's record of 20 Majors. The Spaniard, who has won 18 Slams, will look to clinch his fourth title at New York

Nadal		Medvedev
33	Age	23
83	Titles	5
\$111,328,858	Prize money	\$6,068,073
6'1" (185 cm)	Height	6'6" (198 cm)
2001	Turned pro	2014

H2H: In their only meeting in Montreal 2019, Nadal won 6-3, 6-0

■ US Open 2019 will be Rafael Nadal's 27th Major final. Only Roger Federer has played more (31)

■ Daniil Medvedev is only the second Russian man to reach the US Open final after Marat Safin (2000)

■ The last Russian to reach a Major final before Medvedev was Safin (2005 Australian Open)

■ Medvedev is the youngest US Open men's singles finalist since Novak Djokovic, who was 23 in 2010 (vs. Nadal)



Road to the final

Rafael Nadal (Esp)		Daniil Medvedev (Rus)
bt Matteo Berrettini (Ita) 7-6(6), 6-4, 6-1	Semifinals	bt Grigor Dimitrov (Bul) 7-6(5), 6-4, 6-3
bt Diego Schwartzman (Arg) 6-4, 7-5, 6-2	Quarterfinals	bt Stan Wawrinka (Sui) 7-6(6), 6-3, 3-6, 6-1
bt Marin Cilic (Cro) 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2	Round 4	bt Dominik Koepfer (Ger) 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 7-6(2)
bt Hyeon Chung (Kor) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2	Round 3	bt Feliciano Lopez (Esp) 7-6(1), 4-6, 7-6(7), 6-4
w/o Thanasi Kokkinakis (Aus)	Round 2	bt Hugo Dellien (Bol) 6-3, 7-5, 5-7, 6-3
bt John Millman (Aus) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2	Round 1	bt Prajnesh Gunneswaran (Ind) 6-4, 6-1, 6-2

NADAL
Of course, I would love to be the one who achieves more Grand Slams, but I still sleep very well without being the one who has more Grand Slams

MEDVEDEV
I will not say that I'm a kind person or a good person. I can only say I'm a really calm person in life. I actually have no idea why the demons go out when I play tennis

said of Medvedev.

Medvedev, in his first Grand Slam final at 23, has gone 20-2 in the past six weeks with runner-up efforts in Washington and Canada, a

title in Cincinnati and a breakthrough US Open run.

“I’m just happy to be in the final,” Medvedev said.

“When I was going to USA, I didn’t know it was going to

be this good. So I have to say I love USA.”

Medvedev is the first Russian in a men's Grand Slam final since Marat Safin won the 2005 Australian Open title

and the first Russian to reach the US Open final since Safin won the 2000 crown.

Nadal has dropped only one set at the Open but was severely tested by 24th seed

Berrettini, the first Italian man in the US Open semi-finals since Corrado Barazzutti in 1977.

Berrettini denied Nadal on six break points in the first

set, jumped ahead 4-0 in the tie-break and seized two set points at 6-4 as the Ashe crowd roared with delight.

But the Italian netted two backhand volleys, a baseline

THE RESULTS

Men: Semifinals: 5-Daniil Medvedev (Rus) bt Grigor Dimitrov (Bul) 7-6(5), 6-4, 6-3; 2-Rafael Nadal (Esp) bt 24-Matteo Berrettini (Ita) 7-6(6), 6-4, 6-1.

Doubles:
Men: Final: 1-Juan Sebastian Cabal & Robert Farah (Col) bt 8-Marcel Granollers (Esp) & Horacio Zeballos (Arg) 6-4, 7-5.

Women: Semifinals: 4-Elise Mertens (Bel) & Aryna Sabalenka (Blr) bt Caroline Dolehide & Vania King (USA) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Mixed doubles:
Final: Jamie Murray (GBR) & Bethanie Mattek-Sands (USA) bt 1-Michael Venus-Chan Hao (NZL) & Ching (Tpe) 6-2, 6-3.

backhand and then hit a forehand long to hand Nadal the set.

Nadal, who never faced a break point, took his first break for a 4-3 lead in the second set, held twice to take the set, then rolled to victory in two hours, 35 minutes.

Meanwhile in the men's doubles, Colombian top seeds Juan Sebastian Cabal and Robert Farah won their second consecutive Grand Slam title, beating Spain's Marcel Granollers and Argentina's Horacio Zeballos 6-4, 7-5

“It has been unreal,” Farah said. “Is this a dream? What's going on here?”

Cabal and Farah became the first duo from South America in the Open Era to claim the US title.

England faces a daunting task

THE ASHES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MANCHESTER

England was 18 for two, chasing a target of 383, in the fourth Test of the Ashes at Old Trafford on Saturday. Paceman Pat Cummins sent back Rory Burns and skipper Joe Root off successive balls in the first over of the host's second innings. Both fell for ducks.

Smith on song

Australia had declared its second-innings at 186 for six, with Steve Smith making 82 – his lowest score in a series where he has made 671 runs at an average of 134.2 with three hundreds, including 211 in the first innings here.

The most England has made in the fourth innings to win a Test is 362 for nine, chasing a target of 359 in the series-leveilling win in the third Test at Headingley a fortnight ago.

Warner, Broad's bunny

The sixth ball of Australia's second innings saw opener David Warner out for his third straight Test duck

when Broad had him lbw. It was the sixth time Warner, like Smith appearing in his first Test series after completing a 12-month ban, had fallen to Broad in this Ashes.

Marnus Labuschagne failed to reach fifty for the first time in four Test innings when he was trapped in front by Archer for 11.

Earlier, England, which had resumed at 200 for five, avoided following-on, thanks to Jos Buttler's cover-driven four off Mitchell Starc. Buttler was last man out, bowled for 41.



Taking a walk! Broad is done in by a Starc beauty. •GETTY IMAGES

SCOREBOARD

Australia — 1st innings: 497 for eight decl.

England — 1st innings: Rory Burns c Smith b Hazlewood 81, Joe Denly c Wade b Cummins 4, Craig Overton c Smith b Hazlewood 5, Joe Root lbw b Hazlewood 71, Jason Roy b Hazlewood 22, Ben Stokes c Smith b Starc 26, Jonny Bairstow b Starc 17, Jos Buttler b Cummins 41, Jofra Archer c Paine b Cummins 1, Stuart Broad b Starc 5, Jack Leach (not out) 4; Extras (b-4, lb-11, nb-4, w-5): 24; Total (in 107 overs): 301.

Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-25, 3-

166, 4-175, 5-196, 6-228, 7-243, 8-256, 9-283.

Australia bowling: Starc 22-7-80-3, Hazlewood 25-6-57-4, Cummins 24-6-60-3, Lyon 36-4-89-0.

Australia — 2nd innings: David Warner lbw b Broad 0, Marcus Harris lbw b Broad 6, Marnus Labuschagne lbw b Archer 11, Steve Smith c Stokes b Leach 82, Travis Head b Archer 12, Matthew Wade c Bairstow b Archer 34, Tim Paine (not out) 23, Mitchell Starc (not out) 3; Extras (b-5, lb-2, w-7, nb-1): 15; Total (for six wkts. decl. in 42.5

overs): 186.

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-16, 3-24, 4-44, 5-149, 6-158.

England bowling: Broad 14-4-54-2, Archer 14-2-45-3, Overton 5.5-1-22-0, Leach 9-0-58-1.

England — 2nd innings: Rory Burns c Head b Cummins 0, Joe Denly (batting) 10, Joe Root b Cummins 0, Jason Roy (batting) 8; Total (for two wkts. in seven overs): 18.

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-0.

Australia bowling: Cummins 3-1-8-2, Hazlewood 2-1-2-0, Lyon 1-0-5-0, Starc 1-0-3-0.

Qadir: an epitome of buoyancy

S. DINAKAR
CHENNAI

The icy winter winds brought several layers of woollens out. It was early January and Lahore was bitterly cold.

The year was 2006 and India was touring Pakistan. Ahead of the first Test, we were on a visit to the National Cricket Academy of Pakistan for a glimpse of the country's emerging cricketers.

Even as we were following a net session, we heard some excited voices that signalled the arrival of someone special.

The man was a cricketing great and brought with him sunshine and warmth even if the temperatures were down.

Yes, Abdul Qadir, still bubbly, buoyant and so full of life, was paying a visit to the NCA.

Then, he walked up, extended an arm and followed it up with a hug. “Welcome to Pakistan,” he said and then insisted that we should have lunch together.

The flexible man with dexterous wrists sent down



Two of a kind: Qadir and Imran were like chalk and cheese in bowling parlance, but genius was the common thread.

a few deliveries at the nets too and he could still impart serious revolutions on the ball. You could hear the sound of the ball hissing through the air. No wonder he destroyed line-ups with his drift, dip, two-way spin, and bounce.

Then wading through the bustling streets of Lahore, we travelled to a restaurant of his choice. The food was great but it was Qadir's innate charm and hospitality that was even more sumptu-

ous. “I loved playing in India. The people were friendly. The bonds between us is strong,” he said. The ambience was one of love, not hate. “People to people contact and cricket would bring us closer,” he said.

Another Pakistan great Majid Khan also invited us to his home for lunch, picked us up and drove us back in his car. What we saw was love, affection and genuine warmth that cut across barriers.

South Africa's T20 team arrives in India

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Quinton de Kock-led South Africa team set foot on India on Saturday for the upcoming three-match T20 series.

“Excited to be back in India and looking forward to playing cricket again,” pace spearhead Kagiso Rabada tweeted.

South Africa will start the tour with the T20 matches, the first of which is in Dharamsala on September 15, followed by Mohali (September 18) and Bengaluru (September 22).

That will be followed by Tests in Visakhapatnam (Oct. 2-6), Pune (Oct. 10-14) and Ranchi (Oct 19-23) as the Proteas open their campaign in the ICC World Test Championship.

The team is scheduled to meet South Africa's High Commissioner in the capital on Monday and is expected to touch down at Dharamsala on September 9, six days before the first T20 International.

The squad will be led by interim team director Enoch Nkwe.

India Red outshines Green, emerges champion

Wakhare's five-for sends the latter tumbling to an innings defeat

DULEEP TROPHY

ASHWIN ACHAL
BENGALURU

A disappointing batting performance by India Green allowed India Red register an innings and 38-run victory and lift the Duleep Trophy, on the fourth day at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Saturday.

Green showed little fight in the second essay, and was bowled out for 119. Red off-spinner Akshay Wakhare was the most successful bowler, with five for 13. Pacer Avesh Khan sparked the collapse with three top-order scalps.

Collapse begins

Green skipper Faiz Fazal did not set the right trend for his teammates, playing well away from his body and nicking an off-swing from Jaydev Unadkat.

Dhruv Shorey fell in similarly careless fashion, giving Avesh his first wicket. Akshath Reddy was bowled by an unplayable delivery from Avesh, the ball moving in and then straightening.

Akshdeep Nath received a questionable leg-before decision, leaving Green on shaky



Mission accomplished: The India Red players with the Duleep Trophy. •SUDHAKARA JAIN

ground. Wakhare then entered the attack and wreaked the damage. In only 5.5 overs, he recorded his 19th First Class five-wicket haul, and his second fiver in as many matches.

Two-drop Siddesh Lad (42, 80b, 6x4) was the only one to show patience, but it began to wear thin as his partners seemed to be in a hurry to get out. Lad was most annoyed when Ankit Rajpoot charged out to Wak-

hare on his very first delivery, only to be stumped.

With Mayank Markande not available to bat due to an injury, Lad's was the ninth and final wicket to fall.

The Hirwani effect

Wakhare credited former India leg-spinner Narendra Hirwani for his success. “I’ve been working closely with Hirwani sir for 10 years now. He has made me the bowler I am,” the Vidarbha player

Maninder comes to Warriors’ rescue



Back home! Skipper Maninder Singh escapes the clutches of the Fortunegiants defenders. •RAJEEV BHATT

PKL

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA
KOLKATA

Bengal Warriors captain Maninder Singh made a super raid in the final minute to help the hosts share honours with Gujarat Fortunegiants 25-25 in the opening match of the Kolkata leg of the ProKabaddi League (PKL) on Saturday.

Warriors managed to nose ahead in the first half, thanks to successful raids by Maninder (five points) and K. Prapanjan (four). Warriors enjoyed a slender 15-13 advantage at the break.

After the break, Fortunegiants found another solid

raider in Sachin Tanwar who took the team to 19-16.

Warriors' defence made a couple of successful tackles to make it 20-20, but the Gujarat side, in no mood to let the advantage slip, took a 25-23 lead with less than a minute remaining.

Maninder, however, caught two Fortunegiants defenders and forced a tie. He was the most successful raider, with nine points.

The results: Warriors 25 (Maninder Singh 9, K. Prapanjan 4) drew with Fortunegiants 25 (Sonu Jaglan 6, Sachin Tanwar 6); Haryana Steelers 47 (Vikas Kandola 10, Prashanth Kumar 10) bt Dabang Delhi 25 (Navveen Kumar 11).

TV PICKS

US Open: SS Select 1 (SD & HD), 10.30 p.m.
Italian GP: SS Select 2 (SD & HD), 6.30 p.m.
Euro qualifiers: Sony Ten 2(SD & HD), 6.30 & 9.30 p.m.
The Ashes: Test 4, day 5, Sony Six (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m.
Duleep Trophy final: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 9 a.m.
Bangladesh vs Afghanistan: Only Test, SS Select 1 (SD & HD), 9.20 a.m.
PKL: Star Sports 1, 2 (SD & HD), 7.15 p.m. & 8.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF



Cameroon's Samuel Eto'o hangs up his boots

PARIS
Cameroon's four-time African Player-of-the-Year Samuel Eto'o announced his retirement on Saturday at the age of 38. With Barcelona from 2004 to 2009 he won a pair of Champions League titles and three La Liga crowns. With Cameroon, he won two Africa Cup of Nations as well as Olympic gold in 2000. AFP

Divij-Ebden duo wins title

JINAN (CHINA)
Divij Sharan and Matthew Ebden of Australia clinched the doubles title with a 7-6(4), 5-7, [10-3] victory over Nam Ji Sung and Song Min-Kyu of Korea in the \$162,480 Challenger tennis tournament on Saturday.



Rojas leaps to second-longest triple jump of all time

MADRID
Reigning World champion Yulimar Rojas of Venezuela soared to the second longest triple jump of all-time by managing 15.41m at the Andujar athletics meeting. She was just 9 cm short of the long-standing women's World record of 15.50m set by Ukrainian Inessa Kravets in Gothenburg in 1995. AFP

Deepak pulls off a brilliant victory

Rajiv Sethu storms to fifth consecutive win

SPORTS REPORTER

CHENNAI
Deepak Ravikumar secured a brilliant win in the premier pro-stock 301-400cc category to consolidate his top position on the leaderboard in the fourth round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National motorcycle racing championship at the MMRT here on Saturday.

Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing camp celebrated as Rajiv Sethu stormed to his fifth consecutive win in the pro-stock 165cc class.

The results (provisional): National championship: Pro-stock 301-400cc (race 1): 1. Deepak Ravikumar (TVS Racing) 11:38.822s; 2. Rahul Shetty (Sparks Racing) 11:38.823; 3. Amarnath Menon (Alishaa Racing) 11:40.477.

Pro-stock 201-300cc (race 1): 1. Anish Shetty (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 12:09.576; 2. Abhishek Vasudev (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 12:15.051; 3. Mithun Kumar (Honda Erula Atomic Racing) 12:25.325.

Pro-stock 165cc (race 1): 1. Rajiv Sethu (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 11:58.132; 2. K.Y. Ahamed (TVS Racing)

Leclerc takes pole in farcical session

The way the qualifying race unfolded leaves a sour note for fans across the world

ITALIAN GP

S. DIPAK RAGAV
MONZA
Fans pay huge money to walk into a Formula One track to see the 20 best drivers throw the car around the circuit.

And it is on Saturday, the full potential of Formula One cars are unleashed in the final part of qualifying on new tyres and low fuel as the drivers test the limits of the car and track for just one lap giving it everything to fight for pole position.

Yet, on Saturday, even as the majority of the fans rejoiced at Charles Leclerc taking the pole position for Ferrari's home race, the way it unfolded left a sour note for fans across the world.

For the final run in the last part of qualifying, each driver was crawling around the track to position themselves behind one another to get the perfect slip-stream on the long straights of Monza on their out-lap and failed to start their final qualifying run before the 12-minute session ended.



Powering ahead: Charles Leclerc's time of 1:19:307 after his first run in the final part of qualifying was good enough to give him the pole position. •REUTERS

Leclerc had a time of 1:19:307 after his first run in the final part of qualifying and it was good enough to take pole position ahead of Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton and Valtteri Bottas, who were just a few hundredths of a second behind, with the second Ferrari of Sebastian

Vettel finishing fourth. The last lap of qualifying is under investigation by stewards after the drivers were warned about going too slow on their out-laps and a similar incident in the F3 qualifying on Friday, saw 17 of the 30 drivers getting penalties. However, the biggest loser

on the day was Red Bull Racing's Max Verstappen after his Honda power unit gave up, forcing him to the back of the grid after failing to set a time. Verstappen was on a timed lap earlier in the first part of qualifying when Sergio Perez's Racing Point pulled aside due to a poten-

Petronas launches global talent hunt for a trackside fluid engineer

S. DIPAK RAGAV

MONZA
Ever since the new hybrid era of Formula One began in 2014, there has been a renewed focus on the role of fuel and oils which are essentially the lifeblood of any engine in finding performance gains.

Teams have a strong tie-up with fuel suppliers and have been working closely to extract lap-time from new blends that not only give performance but efficiency as well. And since 2014, Mercedes F1 team has dominated the sport, winning the last five Formula One World Constructors' Championships and Petronas has played a crucial role in that.

Celebrating its tenth season of its technical and title sponsorship with reigning



That's how it's done: Mercedes driver Valtteri Bottas, along with Petronas Trackside Fluid Engineers Nasri Shafie and Stephanie Travers, in the Petronas Track Lab.

•SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Formula One champions, Petronas recently launched its global search for a 'Trackside Fluid Engineer' to provide onsite technical support for Mercedes-AMG Petronas Motorsport in the 2020 FIA F1 World championship.

The Malaysian oil-giant provides fuel, oil and functional fluids for all Mercedes-powered teams and is hoping to build on its success. Speaking about the talent hunt, Dato Sri Syed Zainal Abidin, VP, Marketing Down-

stream Petronas said, "We wanted to have new people and increase the talent pool and get the best.

"So that's how the talent search started and by this, we are able to put people at the centre of it as a marketing tool.

"We had responses from India as well last year and we are hoping we could have an Indian engineer soon."

The Trackside Fluid Engineers analyse samples of oil taken before and after every session during the race weekend. Similar to doing a blood test on a human body, the Trackside Fluid Engineers are monitoring the amount of metal wear in each sample, enabling them to detect any potential issues inside the engine.

Elaborating on the tie-up

tial Mercedes engine issue bringing out red flag forcing the Dutchman, who has won two races this year, to abort his run.

Renault's Danier Ricciardo and Nico Hulkenburg were fifth and sixth followed by McLaren's Carlos Sainz, Red Bull's Alexander Albon Racing Point's Lance Stroll with the last two drivers not even setting a time.

Alfa Romeo's Kimi Raikkonen was 10th but crashed at the start of the third part of qualifying going off at the parabolica corner, similar to the crash he had on Friday. (The writer is in Monza at the invitation of Petronas)

The grid

Row 1: Leclerc, Hamilton; **2:** Bottas, Vettel; **3:** Ricciardo, Hulkenberg; **4:** Sainz, Albon; **5:** Stroll, Raikkonen.
Row 6: Giovinazzi, Magnussen; **7:** Kvyat, Norris; **8:** Gasly, Grosjean; **9:** Perez, Russell; **10:** Kubica, Verstappen.

with Mercedes and the way being in F1 has helped translate into better products, Dato Sri added, "We have benefited in many ways, be it from a technology point of view and branding. We have learnt a lot about the expectations and requirements of the F1 engine.

"For example, we introduced friction modifiers for F1 for the new era and we have been able to reformulate that for the road market. "It has helped us increase our market share as the consumer feels it had made the engine responsive and improved efficiency."

The search is open until September 25, 2019.

To apply, visit Petronas Lubricants International LinkedIn page or email ptf2020@pli-petronas.com.

Afghanistan in the driver's seat

Visitors lead Bangladesh by 374 runs

CRICKET

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
CHITTAGONG
Ibrahim Zadran and Asghar Afghan hit half-centuries while Rashid Khan played a cameo after claiming five wickets in an innings as Afghanistan took command in the one-off Test against Bangladesh here on Saturday.

The visitors reached 237 for eight at stumps on the third day to take an overall lead of 374. Zadran was the top-scorer with 87 off 208 balls for Afghanistan in the second innings while former skipper Asghar made 50 off 108 balls, his second fifty, adding to Bangladesh's



Ibrahim Zadran. •AFP

frustration. Rashid added 24 off 22 balls before wicketkeeper-batsman Afsar Zazai's unbeaten 34 extended Afghanistan's lead.

SCOREBOARD

Afghanistan — 1st innings: 342.

Bangladesh — 1st innings: Shadman Islam c Zazai b Ahmadzai 0, Soumya Sarkar lbw b Nabi 17, Liton Das b Rashid 33, Mominul Haque c Asghar b Nabi 52, Shakib Al Hasan lbw b Rashid 11, Mushfiqur Rahim c Zadran b Rashid 0, Mahmudullah Riyad b Rashid 7, Mosaddek Hossain (not out) 48, Mehidy Hasan b Qais 11, Tajul Islam b Nabi 14, Nayeem Hasan lbw b Rashid 7; Extras (b-4, lb-1): 5; Total (in 70.5 overs): 205

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-38, 3-54, 4-88, 5-88, 6-104, 7-130, 8-146, 9-194.

Afghanistan bowling: Ahmadzai 10-2-21-1, Nabi 24-6-56-3, Zahir 9-1-46-0, Rashid 19.5-3-55-5, Qais 8-2-22-1.

Afghanistan — 2nd innings: Ihsanullah Janat lbw b Shakib 4, Ibrahim Zadran c Mominul b Nayeem 87, Rahmat Shah c & b Shakib 0, Hashmatullah Shahidi c Soumya b Nayeem 12, Asghar Afghan c Shakib b Tajul 50, Afsar Zazai (batting) 34, Mohammad Nabi c Mominul b Mehidy 8, Rashid Khan b Tajul 24, Qais Ahmad lbw b Shakib 14, Yamin Ahmadzai (batting) 0; Extras (b-4): 4; Total (for eight wkts. in 83.4 overs): 237.

Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-4, 3-28, 4-136, 5-171, 6-180, 7-210, 8-235.

Bangladesh bowling: Shakib 16-3-53-3, Mehidy 12-3-35-1, Tajul 24.4-5-68-2, Nayeem 17-2-61-2, Mominul 10-6-13-0, Mosaddek 4-1-3-0.

India defeats Pakistan

U-19 ASIA CUP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MORATUWA (SRI LANKA)

opener Arjun Azad and No. 3 batsman N.T. Tilak Verma scored hundreds as India comfortably crushed Pakistan by 60 runs in an U-19 Asia Cup encounter here on Saturday.

Batting first, India scored a challenging 305 for in 50 overs riding on 183-run se-

cond wicket stand between Arjun (121 off 111 balls) and Tilak (110 off 119 balls).

The right-hander, Arjun hit eleven fours and four sixes while Tilak had 10 boundaries and a six to his credit. **The scores:** India 305 for nine in 50 overs (Arjun Azad 121, N.T. Tilak Verma 110, Naseem Shah three for 52, Abbas Afridi three for 72) bt Pakistan 245 in 46.4 overs (Rohail Khan 117, Haris Khan 43, Atharva Ankolekar three for 36).

Podium for Jehan

F3 CHAMPIONSHIP

SPORTS REPORTER

MONZA

Jehan Daruvala was left frustrated in spite of a podium in race one of the seventh round of the FIA F3 Championship here in Monza on Saturday.

Racing at the historic high-speed circuit, the Formula 1 Italian Grand Prix support event, saw Jehan climb from tenth to second, only to suffer issues denying the Indian a potential race win. Electronics issues disabled Jehan's DRS, in turn preventing him from gaining top speed on the two vital

long straights. Jehan drove brilliantly once the safety car pulled into the pits to take third place from Richard Verschoor into the first corner.

The race ended behind the safety car but Jehan's teammate Marcus Armstrong in second received a penalty, promoting the Indian to second behind championship leader Robert Shwartzman who won the race.

A bizarre qualifying session on Friday saw 17 racers receiving penalties for backing up each other to gain vital lap time on the long straights.



Top class: Marcus Armstrong, Robert Shwartzman and Jehan Daruvala with a team representative on the podium.

•SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Girls (race 1, 5 laps): 1. Lani Zena Fernandez (Puducherry) 11:20.428; 2. Nivetha Jessica (Chennai) 11:37.015; 3. Lakiya Lee Charles (Chennai) 11:37.280.

Idemitsu Honda Talent Cup - NSF 250R (race 1): 1. Md. Mikail (Chennai) 10:59.155; 2. Geofrey Emmanuel (Chennai) 11:09.952; 3. Sarthak Shrikant Chavan (Pune) 11:11.201.

Race 2: 1. Md. Mikail 10:58.935; 2. Varoon Sadasivam (Chennai) 11:03.295; 3. Kritik Vasant Habib (Gadag) 11:11.955.

CBR 150 (race 1): 1. Lal Nunsanga (Aizwal) 13:14.704; 2. Samuel Martin (Bengaluru) 13:14.798; 3. S. Rajdashwanth (Tiruchi) 13:14.922.

Easy for England; shock for Germany

EURO QUALIFIERS

AGENCIES

LONDON

England's serene progress towards Euro 2020 continued as captain Harry Kane grabbed a hat-trick in a 4-0 demolition of Bulgaria in Group A on Saturday.

Germany suffered a surprising 4-2 home defeat to the Netherlands while World Cup runner-up Croatia hammered Slovakia on Friday.

Important results: Group A: England 4 (Kane 24, 50-pen, 74-pen, Sterling 55) bt Bulgaria 0; Kosovo 2 (Murqi 20, Vojvoda 67) bt Czech Republic 1 (Schick 16). **On Friday: Group C:** Estonia



First strike: de Jong scored the Netherlands' opener. •REUTERS

1 (Sorga 54) lost to Belarus 2 (Naumov 48, Skavysh 90+2); Germany 2 (Gnabry 9, Kroos 73-pen) lost to the Netherlands 4 (de Jong 59, Tah 66-og, Malen 79, Wijnaldum 90+1). **Group E:** Slovakia 0 lost to Croatia 4 (Vlasic 45, Perisic 47, Petkovic 72, Lovren 89).

Group I: Scotland 1 (McGinn 11) lost to Russia 2 (Dzyuba 40, O'Donnell 59-og); San Marino 0 lost to Belgium 4 (Batshuayi 43-pen, 90+2, Mertens 57, Chadli 63). **Group G:** Austria 6 (Arnautovic 7, 53-pen, Sabitzer 13, Steinbors 76-og, Laimer 80, Gregoritsch 85) bt Latvia 0.

Lyles winds up Worlds prep in style

DIAMOND LEAGUE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

BRUSSELS

US sprinter Noah Lyles will target World gold next month after "clenching" his way to a "chaotic" 200m victory in 19.74 seconds in the Diamond League final here on Friday.

The American revealed he had to race despite a last-minute need for the toilet.

The winners: Men: 100m: Noah Lyles (USA); **800m:** Donovan Brazier (USA); **5000m:**

Joshua Cheptegei (Uga); **400m hurdles:** Karsten Warholm (Nor); **Pole vault:** Sam Hendricks (USA).

High jump: Andriy Protsenko (Ukr); **Long jump:** Juan Miguel Echevarria (Cub); **Javelin:** Magnus Kirt (Est).

Women: 200m: Shaunae Miller-Uibo (Bah); **400m:** Salwa Eid Naser (Brn); **1500m:** Sifan Hassan (Ned); **400m hurdles:** Sydney McLaughlin (USA); **3000m steeplechase:** Beatrice Chepkoech (Ken); **Triple jump:** Shaniika Ricketts (Jam); **Javelin:** Huihui Lyu (Chn); **Shot put:** Lijiao Gong (Chn).

RCA back as member

The Committee of Administrators on Friday revoked the suspension on Rajasthan Cricket Association and restored its full membership of the BCCI.

The RCA has withdrawn all court cases against the BCCI, have given undertaking that it would abide by the new BCCI Constitution and hold elections as per the CoA directions.

The CoA said in

statement: "Keeping in mind the interests of the game of cricket and development and promotion of the game in Rajasthan, the Committee of Administrators is of the view that RCA's suspension from membership of the BCCI be revoked with immediate effect."

The full membership of the RCA was suspended on Dec. 11, 2017.

PNB accounts for Indian Navy

To meet IOC, which rallied to beat Central Secretariat, in the final

MURUGAPPA HOCKEY

K. KEERTHIVASAN
CHENNAI

Central Secretariat (CST) scored two goals in the space of two minutes to rattle the defending champion Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) for a brief while in the semifinals of the MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup All-India hockey tournament here on Saturday.

CST threatened to take the match away from IOC after those early goals, but the champion team rallied well to script a 6-3 victory.

In the other semifinal, Punjab National Bank (PNB) blew away Indian Navy in a wonderful exhibition of attacking hockey in the fourth and final quarter to win 4-2.

In the final on Sunday, IOC will take on PNB.

Dharambir Yadav un-

leashed a stinging forehan- der after receiving a pass from Sukhjeet Singh in the very first minute. In the next minute, captain Govind Singh Rawat converted off a penalty corner to make it 2-0 for CST.

IOC fought back through Olympians Dharamvir Singh and Deepak Thakur with two goals to draw level. Sahir Mohd's wonderful run from the right extreme, dribbling past two defenders and scor- ing, was a fine solo act as CST again went ahead. That goal also forced IOC to replace its 'keeper Pankaj Rajak with J. Chetan.

The complexion of the match changed once IOC's forwards began to assert themselves. Talwinder Singh tapped one into the net off a cross from the right and Af- fan Yousuf slammed one into the top of the roof from the

top of the circle. Two more strikes in the fourth quarter completed IOC's tally.

The Navy-PNB match was evenly contested. Easily one of the best teams in the group stages, Navy was com- pletely taken aback by PNB's aggression in the fourth quarter.

With the score 1-1 till the third quarter, three goals – Gujinder Singh, Abhishek and Sukhjeet Singh finding the net – in the final quarter turned the match in PNB's favour.

The results (semifinals): IOC 6 (Dharamvir Singh 9, Deepak Thakur 14, Talwinder Singh 33, Affan Yousuf 45 & 60, Roshan Minz 55) bt CST 3 (Dharambir Yadav 1, Govind Singh Rawat 2, Sahir Mohd. 17).

PNB 4 (Mandeep Mor 35, Gu- jinder Singh 50, Abhishek 55, Sukhjeet Singh 56) bt Indian Navy 2 (Jugraj Singh 37 & 57).



Well done: PNB's Sukhjeet Singh gets a pat after scoring the team's fourth goal against Indian Navy. • M. VEDHAN

Indians lead in all sections

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

In keeping with the expec- tations, Indians continued to lead or share the lead in all categories of the West- ern Asian youth chess championship here on Saturday.

After four rounds, se- venth seed Rajdeep Sarkar was the surprise leader with a 'perfect' score in the under-20 open section.

Among the girls, Sakshi Chitlange was jointly ahead with Uzbekistan's Bakhora Adusattorova at 3.5 points. Five more rounds remain.

In the under-18 open sec- tion, clubbed with under-16 for want of participation of minimum five federations, Arjun Gupta and Vatsal

Singhania were ahead with 3.5 points.

Among the under-18 girls, Mrudul Dehankar led following four victories while the girls' under-16 section saw Greeshma Dhu- mal share the lead with Bangladesh's Walijah Ahmed at 3.5 points.

In the combined open sections of under-14 and under-12, Ayush Sharma led with four points, much like Bhagyashree Patil in the girls' under-14 category.

Other leaders:
U-10 open, u-10 girls: G. Akash (4); **Open (u-8):** Rosh Jain (4); **Open (u-6):** Madhvendra Shar- ma (4).

Girls, u-12: K. Ratnapriya and Kheerti Ganita (3.5); **U-8:** Anaishaa Nahar (4); **U-6:** Diya Sawal (4).

Mixed luck for Tamil Nadu

BASKETBALL

SPORTS BUREAU
CUTTACK

It was mixed luck for Tamil Nadu in the quarterfinals of the 46th Sub-junior basket- ball championships at the Ja- waharlal Nehru indoor sta- dium here on Saturday.

Maharashtra boys defeat- ed Tamil Nadu 84-76 after leading 42-22 at half-time.

However, Tamil Nadu girls moved into the semifinals with a crushing 76-27 win over defending champion Punjab.

Delhi girls topple Kerala
Delhi girls came back from behind to topple Kerala 65- 61.

The results (quarterfinals):

Boys: Punjab 57 (Jaddu Man 29, Rupansh Garg 13) bt Chhat- tisgarh 50 (Sanju Gajbiye 27, Shilendra Singh 10); Maharash- tra 84 (Shaik Taufiq 22, Badal Rawat 16, Kunal Shirale 13, Yo- gesh Yadav 12) bt Tamil Nadu 76 (Abhimanyu 21, Shabareesh 21, Harish Aravind 13).

Girls: Karnataka 69 (M.K. Yash- aswini 17, Harini G. Iyer 11) bt Uttar Pradesh 49 (Tejesvini 13, Aanavi 12, Deepikka 10).

Delhi 65 (Reha Singh 20, Harshitha 13) bt Kerala 61 (Ti- yona Ann Philip 17, Amanda Maria Rocha 14, Sona Rajan 10); Maharashtra 86 (Sa- meesha Chandak 24, Akahaya Patil 18, Anaya Bhavsar 12) bt Madhya Pradesh 65 (Guvi Agarwal 31, Tanu Varma 16); Tamil Nadu 76 (Juna Chrsolin 37, Antheya Daisy 11) bt Punjab 27.

Swarneem and Tondon score three goals apiece

NEW DELHI: In a one-sided encounter, II Gorkha Rifles Regimental Centre, Army Boys defeated Govern- ment Secondary School, Motum, Arunachal Pra- desh 8-0 in a Pool A match of the Subroto Cup boys (under-17) International football tournament here on Saturday.

The scorers were Ton- don (three), Swarneem (three), Birsha and Ronald Singh.

In Pool C, Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protisthan beat Govt. Senior Sec- ondary School, Lakshadweep 6-0. Habib (3), Asadul (2) and Sanowar found the target.

HI names 33 for junior men's national camp

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Ahead of next month's Sul- tan of Johor Cup, Hockey In- dia (HI) on Saturday named the 33 core probables list for the four-week junior men's national coaching camp be- ginning on Monday.

Players will report at SAI, Bengaluru campus for the camp that concludes on Oc- tober 7 ahead of the team's departure for Malaysia.

The annual tournament, which begins on October 12, features a formidable line-up of teams such as Australia, Great Britain, New Zealand, Japan, India and the host.

Just one change

The core probables group has just one change with de- fender Yashdeep Siwach re- placing Sundaram Singh Rajawat.

The group has been play- ing together for over a year

and they understand the team's shortcomings which need to be niggled out ahead of the tournament where In- dia had won a silver in the previous edition.

Core probables list:

Goalkeepers: Pawan, Prashant Kumar Chauhan, Sahil Kumar Nayak.

Defenders: Suman Beck, Pra- tap Lakra, Sanjay, Yashdeep Si- wach, Mandeep Mor, Param- preet Singh, Dinachandra Singh Moirangthem, Nabin Ku- jur, Sharda Nand Tiwari, Niraj Kumar Waribam.

Midfielders: Sukhman Singh, Gregory Xess, Ankit Pal, Akashdeep Singh Jr., Vishnu Kant Singh, Gopi Kumar Son- kar, Vishal Antil, Surya N.M., Maninder Singh, Rabichandra Singh Moirangthem.

Forwards: Sudeep Chirmako, Rahul Kumar Rajbhar, Uttam Singh, S. Karthi, Dilpreet Singh, Arijaiet Singh Hundal, Amandeep Singh, Prabhjot Singh, Shivam Anand, Arsh- deep Singh.

Isabella poised for a hat-trick

HYDERABAD: Isabella, who is in fine nick, is poised to complete a hat-trick in the Soli And Gool Poon- awalla Memorial Gold Cup (1,200m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Sunday (Sept. 8).

1. DELAGE PLATE (1,600m), 4-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II), 1-55 p.m.: 1. Ashwa Raftar (4) Umesh 60, 2. Durango (3) Ajeeth Kumar 59, 3. King Maker (6) Surya Prakash 57.5, 4. George Cross (1) Nakhat Singh 56.5, 5. N R I Heights (ex: Solar Heights) (5) Akshay Kumar 52 and 6. Lockhart (2) Afroz Khan 54.

2. STAR MAKER, 2. DURANGO.
2. STAR HAVEN PLATE (1,800m), 4-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 2-25: 1. Euro Zone (2) Nakhat Singh 60, 2. Buttonwood (5) Koushik 58.5, 3. Actually (6) Surya Prakash 56.5, 4. Lancashire (3) B.R. Kumar 56, 5. Mossad (4) Afroz Khan 55 and 6. Nazariya (1) Akshay Ku- mar 55.

3. HALF A CROWN PLATE (Div. I), (1,400m), 4-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. IIB), (No whips), 3-00: 1. Amazing Script (7) Surya Prakash 60, 3. Darshish (10) Abhay Singh 59, 4. Guiding Force (1) Santosh Raj 58.5, 5. Solo Winner (3) C.P. Bopanna 57.5, 6. Crimson Fire (5) Deepak Singh 57, 7. Brush The Sky

(2) Gaurav Singh 55.5, 8. Nathu La (9) Afroz Khan 54, 9. Handsome Duo (6) Ajeeth Kumar 52.5, 10. Withrosemakeup (8) Ajit Singh 51.5 and 11. Bombastic (11) Gaddam 50.

4. SWEEPING SUCCESS PLATE (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only (Cat. II), (Terms), 3-30: 1. Cerberus (4) B. Nikhil 56, 2. Linewiler (9) Ak- shay Kumar 56, 3. Mehrzad (3) S.G. Prasad 56, 4. Mind Reader (5) Na- khat Singh 56, 5. Star Racer (2) Deepak Singh 56, 6. Starwalker (6) Ajeeth Kumar 56, 7. Augenstern (1) Gaddam 54.5, 8. Green Turf (1) A. A. Vikrant 54.5, 9. Scared Lamp (8) Aneel 54.5, and 10. Safra (10) N. Rawal 54.5.

5. ARMY CUP (1,200m), 3-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II), 4-00: 1. Pontius Pilate (3) Gaurav Singh 60, 2. Rahil (2) Gopal Singh 56.5, 3. Aon Aon Aon (8) Suraj Narredu 56, 4. Versailles (7) Afron Khan 55.5, 5. Marinetti (5) Akshay Kumar 51, 6. Desert Moon (5) Khur- shad Alam 53, 7. One One One (9) C.P. Bopanna 52.5, 8. Sarvatra (6) Abhay Singh 52, 9. Palsy Walsy (10) B. Nikhil 51 and 10. Takisha (4) G. Naresh 50.5.

1. MARINETTI, 2. PONTIUS PILATE, 3. AON AON AON.
7. RED RUFUS PLATE (1,600m), 4-y-o & over, rated upto 25 (Cat. III), 5-00: 1. N R I Flame (9) Kuldeep Singh 60, 2. New Corner (2) Jitendra Singh 60, 3. Super Act (5) Surya Prakash 60, 4. Halo's Princess 97) G. Naresh 59.5, 5. Stormy (10) Afroz Khan 59.5, 6. Yogastha (6) Ajeeth Kumar 59.5, 7. Cowboys Delight (3) Kunal Bunde 58.5, 8. Shivalki Sand (8) Rohit Kumar 58.5, 9. Hopscotch (11) N. Rawal 56, 10. Top Singer (4) A.A. Vikrant 55.5 and 11. Turf Em- peror (1) Akshay Kumar 54.5.

1. TURF EMPEROR, 2. HALO'S PRIN- CESS, 3. N R I FLAME.
Day's best: ISABELLA.
Double: **BUTTONWOOD – LINEWILER.**
Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7; Mini Jkt: 4, 5, 6 & 7; Tr (1): 2, 3 & 4; (ii): 5, 6 & 7; Tla: all races.

Dube — learning from setbacks

After a horrific IPL, the allrounder rediscovers his mojo

CRICKET

M.R. PRAVEEN CHANDRAN
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

An Indian allrounder who bowls brisk medium-pace lives in a crucible of extreme expectations. After all, he is supposed to follow in the footsteps of one of the great- est all-rounders to have played the game – Kapil Dev.



Shivam Dube. • FILE PHOTO

Catching the eye

The 25-year-old Shivam Dube belongs to this tribe of cricketers whose presence in the squad is a luxury to any captain. The Mumbai crick- eter first grabbed the head- lines when he thwacked five sixes in a Ranji Trophy game against Baroda in 2018.

None other than Sunil Ga- vaskar spoke highly of him. Dube was the hottest buy for Royal Challengers Bangalore in the IPL auction. But crick- et can be a great leveller, Dube endured a horrific IPL this year.

The IPL taught him many

things the foremost was to handle failures and the need to work hard on his game.

"I am working hard every day. Learning is the main thing to become a good player. Though I had a poor IPL, I learnt a lot practising with international players. Spending time with Rahul (Dravid) sir during the 'A' tours was also a great expe- rience," he said.

"Being an all-rounder is a difficult job. But, I enjoy it," he said.

Dube bounced back and was Man-of-the-Series in the three-match Test series when India-A toured the West Indies last month.

Coming late in the order Dube struck a couple of game-changing fifties and al-

so chipped in with a few wickets. It was his batting which stood out on the tour.

Dube has carried his good form with the bat into the se- ries against South Africa-A as well. He played two crucial match-winning knocks against the visitors.

Work to do

But, his bowling, he admits, has not matched his batting exploits.

"I know I haven't taken many wickets. But I need to improve both my batting and bowling. I am working on certain aspects of my game like hitting the ball harder. I am also working to improve my fitness and also on the mental aspect of my game as well," he said.

SHOOTING

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI

Dhanush Srikanth was at his fluent best as he tamed a star-studded men's field in air rifle in the sixth National shooting selection trials at the Dr. Karni Singh Range, Tughlakabad, on Saturday.

The 17-year-old Dhanush, a trainee of Gagan Narang's Gun For Glory academy, has been shooting record scores this season, making light of his impaired hearing. It was no surprise that he won the men's event, the junior event, and finished second best in the youth category.

Dhanush beat Pankaj Ku- mar of the Army, who had topped qualification with an

admirable 631.8, by 1.4 point for the honours in the men's event which had 362 shooters.

Sandeep Singh, who has been competing in the MQS section in the World Cups, was third ahead of Ravi Ku- mar, Divyansh Singh Panwar and Asian Games silver med- allist Deepak Kumar.

Ravi Kumar shot 628.4 in qualification. Divyansh Singh Panwar who has won the only Olympic quota in men's air rifle so far, shot 626.7 in qualification. He opted to skip the junior and youth finals.

Dhanush pipped the ju- nior qualification topper Ke- val Jashvantbhai Prajapati by 0.4 point, after the latter had a string of 10.9 and 10.8 in



Dhanush Srikanth. • KAMESH SRINIVASAN

the last 10 shots.

In the non-Olympic men's 50-metre free pistol, Arjun Singh Cheema topped with 562. He clinched the ho- nours in the junior event as well.

In junior men's sports pis- tol, Mitesh Kumar Manilal Gohil shot 583 to beat World

CAB elections on Sept. 28

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

Following the direction from the CoA of the BCCI, the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) on Saturday is- sued notice to its 139 mem- bers informing them that it would hold its elections on September 28. The CAB has 121 affiliated units and 18 ex- cricketers. The CoA on Fri- day had set September 28 as the deadline for state asso- ciations to complete their election procedure.

Silver for Payas

NEW DELHI: Payas Jain lost to World No. 1 Yuanyu Chen of China 13-11, 11-6, 11-8, 11-5 in the final of 25th Asian ju- nior and cadet table tennis championships at Ulaan- baatar on Saturday. India ended its campaign with two silvers – one by junior boys and one by Payas. PTI

Perna to take on Vaidehi for title

ASIAN TENNIS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Four-time national cham- pion Perna Bhambri over- came hiccups to outwit top seed Sai Samhitha 6-4, 7-5 in the semifinals of the Asian Tour women's tennis tourna- ment here on Saturday.

Sai made a slow start, los- ing serve early and was try- ing to catch up with Perna. However, in the second set, in which she jumped to a 4-0

lead, after having lost the first set, Sai was unable to drive home the advantage.

In their only meeting in the international circuit in 2017, Sai had beaten Perna in three sets, but today she missed the key points.

In the final, Perna will play second seed Vaidehi Chaudhari who went about her task with grit, and over- came tricky player Yubarani Banerjee 6-1, 3-6, 6-1.

After dropping a token game in each of the first two

rounds, Vaidehi has been battling tough opponents in Akanksha Nitture and Yuba- rani Banerjee in the last two rounds, which has prepared her nicely for the final.

It will be interesting to see how well Vaidehi tackles Perna, who has virtually been unbeatable on Court No.1 for the Indian players.

The results (semifinals): Per- na Bhambri bt Sai Samhitha 6-4, 7-5; Vaidehi Chaudhari bt Yubarani Banerjee 6-1, 3-6, 6-1.



Stunning show: Perna Bhambri overcame hiccups to pack off top seed Sai Samhitha in the semifinals. • KAMESH SRINIVASAN

Historic gold a product of hard training

The sprint team beat Australia in the final of the UCI junior World meet

CYCLING

ANANT KAUR
NEW DELHI

The formidable sprint cy- cling team of Esow Alben, Ronaldo Singh, Rojit Singh and Jemsh Singh made histo- ry when they won the gold at the UCI junior track cycling World championships in Frankfurt, Germany last month.

The Indian team defeated Australia in the final with a score of 44.681 and the quar- tet spoke about the feat at the Russian Culture Centre here on Saturday.

For someone who used to cycle to go for rowing in An- daman and despite playing other sports like football, athletics (long jump) and rowing, the 18-year-old Al- ben was destined to excel in sprint cycling.

Alben's mother forced him to go for SAI (Sports Authority of India) cycling trials.

"My mom who was a



On a high: From left, Ronaldo Singh, Rojit Singh, Esow Alben and Jemsh Singh recall their moment of triumph • ANANT KAUR

sportsperson herself, left her work in between and took me to the trails and I got se- lected. She told me sport can change your life and she was right, it did. I injured my

hand before the final but I was so passionate about fin- ishing first that I forgot about the pain."

Rigorous training, staying away from mobile phone

and several hours in the gym with proper coaching and guidance has made Alben excel on the cycling track. "As a team, our goal is to get a po- dium finish in the 2022 Asian

Games and 2024 Olympics," said Alben.

Ronaldo Singh from Mani- pur stressed, "two years ago we had pledged to win the gold. Such an opportunity (to win on August 15) to hear their National anthem play after a victory was a huge motivation. We overcame many hurdles to win."

Reflecting on India's un- precedented success in the World Championships, Cy- cling Federation of India (CFI) chairman Onkar Singh said, "Our boys stunned the whole world when they won the gold.

"All this wouldn't have been possible without the support of SAI (Sports Auth- ority Of India), UCI (Inter- national Cycling Union) and Honda.

"When we started, we had only one cycle and now we have 200, thanks to Honda."

Esow will be seen in ac- tion at the CFI Track Asia Cup 2019 at the Yamuna Cy- cling Velodrome.

IN BRIEF



Russian robot 'Fedor' leaves space station
MOSCOW
A Russian robot known as 'Fedor' departed the International Space Station late on Friday, two weeks after an aborted docking attempt delayed its arrival. Astronauts at the station tested Fedor's ability to mirror the movements of humans while wearing exoskeleton suits. AFP



Will Smith to do film adaptation of *Brilliance*
LOS ANGELES
Hollywood star Will Smith and screenwriter Akiva Goldsman, who worked together on projects such as *I Am Legend* and *I, Robot*, are teaming up again for another sci-fi project, which will be an adaptation of Marcus Sakey's book *Brilliance*. IANS



Mexicans pay homage to artist Francisco Toledo
MEXICO CITY
Mexicans left candles and flowers to pay their respects to expressionist painter Francisco Toledo on Friday. The artists, who won fame for his fights to preserve historic sites and green spaces, died at 79 on Thursday. AP



TV show slammed for promoting 'invasion'
CARACAS
Venezuela's Culture Minister has accused Amazon TV series *Jack Ryan* of promoting an invasion of the South American nation, following a trailer for the second season that appears to put Caracas at the centre of a global conspiracy. REUTERS

Lijo Jose Pellissery's rural fable *Jallikattu* runs riot in Toronto

Searing film asks if it is high time for man to rein the animal within

NAMRATA JOSHI
TORONTO

The Indian buffalo had a great run on the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) red carpet with Lijo Jose Pellissery's *Jallikattu* finding an engaged, inquisitive and appreciative audience at its world premiere on Friday. It was attended, besides Pellissery, by writer S. Hareesh, cinematographer Gireesh Gangadharan, composer Prashant Pillai and actors Anthony Varghese, Chemban Vinod Jose and Shanthi Balakrishnan.

A seemingly simple tale of a buffalo escaping the butcher, running amok and being chased by the entire village, has Pellissery himself going berserk with sound design and imagery. All in an artistically astounding way.

Pellissery's frames have wild frenzy written all over them and they careen on distinctive, catchy, adrenaline pumping, thumping percussive beats and incidental sounds, be it the insects in the jungle or even the human breath. From the energetic opening sequence – a tapestry of the morning vignettes in the village – to the muddy magnificence of human chaos in the apocalyptic finale, his cinematic gaze is sweeping and audacious, overpowering and mesmeric.

On the face of it there is nothing political about the film yet Pellissery is perhaps at his most political, with *Jallikattu*, offering a biting comment on the human condition and civilisation's regression.

The men in the film might be united in their mission to get the better of the animal but are divided by petty rivalries.

It's not just a battle of man against animal but man against man as well. What is



On point: A still from the film *Jallikattu* shows the fine line between man and beast. ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

the difference then between men and beasts? Isn't man a savage brute himself? The film, despite being propelled by a delicious, wicked strain of humour, is ultimately an unrelenting build-up towards exposing the many facets of the essential human hollowness and mob mentality.

In 2008 Umesh Kulkarni made a fablesque Marathi comedy *Valu*, about the power play involved in taming an aggressive bull in a remote Maharashtra village. Pellissery goes more acute and pointed, deeper and philosophical with his cinematic parable. And leaves one asking the crucial question: isn't it high time for man to rein in the animal within?

Sarandon sanguine
What would it mean to win another Oscar? When asked at the press conference of her latest film, *Blackbird*, actor Susan Sarandon said she was happy to be part of the [Oscars] club, to have been recognised by her peers. But she felt things have now become corporate with lot of money and hard-nosed campaigning involved behind the awards.

"There are many performances and little films that don't have the means to reach out," she said, to be able to compete against the big films that have "the Harvey Weinsteins of the world pushing". "This is just the way it is. You have to realise that there are so many people who deserve to be recognised and aren't," she said.

"There are so many talented female actors out there... We are all part of the club in which we respect each other, cheer each other on, respect each other".

(The writer is in Toronto at the invitation of TIFF)

Seller of million-euro pigeon keen on raising new champions

Joel Verschoot spends 10 hours a day tending to birds

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
INGELMUNSTER

Belgian pigeon breeder Joel Verschoot could probably have settled down to a comfortable retirement in March after he sold the world's most expensive racer.

Armando, the pigeon, became worldwide headlines and netted Mr. Verschoot €1.25 million euros (₹9.96 crore) when he won over Chinese buyers in an online auction.

Now the famous bird toils for a Beijing public works magnate, fathering what his new owner must hope will be a new generation of feathered champions.

But 64-year-old retired abattoir worker Mr. Verschoot is not done yet. He still dedicates up to 10 hours a day tending for and racing his charges.

Before Armando set the online pigeon auction world alight earlier this year, the Flemish fancier's most expensive protégée was €400,000 (₹3.19 crore) Nadine.

Now Mr. Verschoot wants to better his record. He has hidden away two of Armando's heirs – "a son and a daughter" – in the hope they mate and raise a brood.

Since retiring from the



Flying high: Joel Verschoot inspecting a racing pigeon. ■AFP

abattoir in 2015, Mr. Verschoot has turned a hobby into an international business, fuelled by the rise of Chinese interest.

Global reputation
Belgian birds have a global reputation as racers and Nikolaas Gyselsbrecht, CEO of the online site Pigeon Paradise, says China accounts for 40% of sales.

Mr. Verschoot's, and later Armando's, reputation was built in middle-distance races of 500 to 700 km. As a trainer, he explains, his speciality was keeping apart male and female pairs for two weeks before the day-long race. The lovesick birds, he reckons, are all the more determined to return to each others' bosom at speeds of up to 80 kmph after this enforced celibacy.

"Quick, quick, quick, back to the house and the women!" he chants.

Armando was not merely randy, however, he was also "crafty". He was an expert at dodging power cables and airborne predators.

He came second in a race in Limoges, France in 2017 and 2018.

At the start of this year, things got serious at the race in Poznan, Poland, that acts as a kind of pigeon Champions League for the best birds in Europe. He won. And now his champion's DNA is much sought after.

Parts of Wikipedia offline after 'malicious' attack

Teams are working to restore access

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

Popular online reference website Wikipedia went down in several countries after the website was targeted by what it described as a "malicious attack".

The server of the Wikimedia Foundation, which hosts the site, suffered a "massive" Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack, the organisation's German account said in a tweet late on Friday.

In a separate statement, the Wikimedia Foundation said that the attack on the encyclopaedia was "ongoing" and teams were working to restore access.

DDoS attacks often involve legions of zombie computers – machines infected with viruses and commanded to simultaneously visit a website.

Such a massive onslaught of demand can overwhelm website computer servers, slowing service or knocking them offline. Wikimedia condemned the breach of its server, saying it threatened "everyone's fundamental rights to freely access and share information."

Similar cyberattacks have hammered other popular internet domains including Twitter, Facebook and Google in recent years.

Climate warriors



Distress call: At the 76th Venice Film Festival on Saturday, protesters took over the red carpet as part of a campaign against cruise ships that sail into the Italian lagoon and cause damage to fragile ecosystems. ■AFP

Spy master Le Carre slams Boris Johnson

Novelist's 25th book is out next month

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

British master spy novelist John le Carre's 25th book condemns "pig-ignorant" Boris Johnson and the "lunacy" of Brexit, according to an excerpt published in Saturday's *Guardian* newspaper.

Set in 2018, *Agent Running in the Field* tells the tale of Nat, a 47-year-old MI5 foreign intelligence service member with doubts about Britain's fate.

Extracts of the 87-year-old writer's book, to be released on October 17, show Nat revealing his career choice to his daughter Steff.

Mr. Johnson is still Foreign Secretary in the book, a position he gave up in July 2018 in protest against former Prime Minister Theresa May's Brexit strategy.

'Lunacy of Brexit'
Describing a Britain in "free fall", Nat lists the reasons why he doubts why his country was still a democracy that worked for its people.

"A minority Tory cabinet of tenth-raters. A pig-ignorant foreign secretary who I'm supposed to be serving. Labour no better. The sheer bloody lunacy of Brexit," Nat tells his daughter.

Chess offers Nigerian slum children new moves

For the impoverished children of Ikorodu, mastering the 'difficult' game gives them confidence

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LAGOS

Crowds of children bustle around chessboards in Nigeria's Lagos, figuring out their next moves as part of a project aimed at bringing hope in one of the city's impoverished slums.

Dozens of matches are played simultaneously as participants as young as three master a game often considered out of reach for the masses in Africa's most populous country.

"Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose," 24-year-old teacher Tunde Onakoya tells his young charges after getting their attention.

"But it's how you respond that makes you a champion. Don't get down when you lose, don't feel like you can't do it, just concentrate and do your best."

Seasoned player Mr. Onakoya started the Chess in Slums project last September in the sprawling neighbourhood of Ikorodu, a place where residents often feel cut off from the bustle and business of the vibrant megacity around it.

The goal of the club is to provide a space to play and learn the game for the young inhabitants of the slum, many of whom are not in school and work to support their families.

Held beneath a makeshift tent in the courtyard of a local bar, in less than a year, the programme has already drawn an enthusiastic following.

As elderly men sip beer



Battle of minds: The youngest children sing rhymes about chess to help them master the rules, as the older ones settle down into intense games. ■AFP

and watch football nearby, a dozen volunteers divide the pupils into groups.

While some turn their figures into battling action heroes, most are focused and intent on winning.

The youngest children sing rhymes about chess to help them master the rules, as the older ones settle down into intense games.

They use mobile phone apps to time their moves and record the matches in notepads to review their mistakes and successes later.

"I want to be a Grandmaster," one of the children tells AFP, laughing.

The West African nation ranks 88th out of 186 countries, according to the FIDE World Chess Federation's rating of top players across the globe, but still does not have any Grandmasters.

Other board games are more popular.

Nigeria is a superpower in Scrabble, winning multiple championships and boasting 29 of the top 100 players in the world, more than any other country.

Mr. Onakoya says that chess has lagged behind in part due to an image problem.

"There's this perception

of it as being a really difficult game, not as accessible, like for people of a different class," he says.

He took chess in primary school and works with private schools as a consultant to add it to their curricula.

"I believe in the game because it helps your cognition, your creativity, your focus. It's like food for your brain," he said.

"Ikorodu is the kind of place where there's a lot of troubles and poverty. It is a tough place to get to, if you tell someone to come to Ikorodu they will laugh," he says.

"I felt it would be powerful to help children here because many of them are really talented."

"If they could master a game that people wouldn't expect them to even know, it could really show them their potential and give them confidence."

School sponsorship
The club already boasts several success stories.

Ten-year-old Odunayo Olukoya joined Chess in Slums in January. Four months later, she came first in the national chess championship for her age group.

For Jamii Ninilowo, 14, taking part has also been transformative. The skinny boy worked as a mechanic fixing cars at a garage in Ikorodu instead of attending school.

He had to earn money for his family after his mother's leg was mangled in an accident as she picked scrap at a local refuse site to sell on for a meagre profit.

In February, Ninilowo joined the club and is now its best player. After he won a tournament in April, an impressed donor partnered with Chess in Slums to pay for his secondary education.

"Chess is helping me to be a mechanical engineer by sending me to school," he tells AFP, proudly wearing the medal he won.

The attention that the project has generated has helped shine a spotlight on more of these marginalised children.

New York pop-up celebrates 25th anniversary of *Friends*

Items from the hit sitcom are on display at an exhibition

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
NEW YORK

Central Perk's famous orange sofa, Chandler and Joey's reclining leather armchairs and Phoebe's guitar: all are on display at an exhibition to mark the 25th anniversary of the hit sitcom *Friends*.

The pop-up exhibit opened in New York on Saturday as part of celebrations marking a quarter of a century since the first episode aired on NBC, and runs until October 6.

It is also a way for Warner Bros to cash-in on the comedy series' seemingly never-ending popularity, 15 years after the last episode was broadcast in May 2004.

"It's like a museum. The amount of details, of props, and just the craftsmanship that has gone into this event is astounding," said James Michael Tyler, who played Gunther, the timid waiter in love with Rachel.

The studio has recreated the set in a huge loft in Soho, Manhattan, almost exactly. Everything from the furniture to the decor is the same.

Visitors can lounge on the famous armchairs where Joey and Chandler would shout at the television, eye their foosball table, or open the door to Monica and Rachel's apartment just across the hallway.

"When I first walked in, I just burst into a smile. Every corner that I turn and all the



Nostalgia trip: Maggie Wheeler, who played Janice in *Friends*, posing in a replica of the Central Perk set. ■AP

things that I could see brings back a lot memories and it's so well done," said Maggie Wheeler, who played Janice – that lady with the annoying, nasal laugh.

The exhibition, which is already sold out, is part of a wider effort to mark the anniversary and capitalise on its popularity among younger audiences who weren't even born when the final episode was broadcast but have discovered it through reruns on Netflix.

'Crazy about them'
More than a thousand movie theaters in the United States are planning to show iconic episodes this year while lines in *Friends* toys and furniture, including the orange sofa, have been launched around the world.

"In the case of *Friends*,

people absolutely fell in love with those six people," said Michael Lembeck, who directed 24 episodes, referring to the characters played by Jennifer Aniston, Courtney Cox, Lisa Kudrow, Matthew Perry, Matt LeBlanc and David Schwimmer.

"We love their behaviors in these situations and we absolutely associate with what's made for them and we're going to watch them every week because we're crazy about them," he added, explaining the series' longevity.

Tyler (Gunther) admits he is a little saddened by the nostalgia trip at the exhibition, saying he misses the days on set.

"I was very lucky. I don't take it lightly. I was blessed to have been part of this show," said the 57-year-old.